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# Daily Report

# East Asia

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## East Asia

*FBIS-EAS-90-165* *24 August 1990*


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## Japan

### Further Reportage on Crisis Over Iraq, Kuwait

#### Arab Envoys Urge Japanese Role

*OW2308120090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0929 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—The envoys of five Persian Gulf countries Thursday called on Japan to exercise political and economic influence in the Middle East after Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said the message was delivered in a meeting of Vice Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama and the envoys of five Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.

Saudi Ambassador Fawzi bin 'Abd al-Majid Shobokshi noted that Japan is "extremely influential" in terms of its voice in global economic affairs, officials said. But Japan should make an effort to wield greater political influence, the Saudi envoy said.

Kuwaiti Ambassador 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sharikh suggested Japan study an essay written by the vice minister recently on new directions for Japanese foreign policy in the changing world of the 1990s.

In the essay, published last May, Kuriyama advocated that Japan shed the outdated, passive foreign policy of a minor power and adopt an active diplomacy more befitting "a major power with an unassuming posture."

Shobokshi conveyed the GCC countries' appreciation of Japan's decision to implement sanctions against Iraq, saying the move contributes to the common goal of achieving peace and stability in the region. He added that any aid that Japan is able to provide will be welcome. He assured Kuriyama the GCC countries are aware of Japan's "limitations."

Kuriyama called Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait "absolutely unacceptable" and pledged that Japanese sanctions would continue as long as Iraqi forces remain in the tiny oil-rich emirate, officials said. He said Japan considers the current situation as not merely a regional problem to be tackled by the Arab world, but one that affects the entire international order.

Japan is considering a package of measures to contribute to international efforts underway in the Persian Gulf, Kuriyama told the Arab envoys. Japanese officials have pledged to send not only money and materials, but also personnel. But constitutional and other legal obstacles are said to rule out any direct military contribution, such as the dispatch of combat troops to join the multinational forces in the Gulf region.

#### Japanese Under House Arrest

*OW2308154590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1525 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Some 160 Japanese are under house arrest in a Baghdad hotel after fleeing Kuwait for what they thought would be the relative safety of the Iraqi capital, government officials said Thursday.

Most Japanese stranded in Iraqi-occupied Kuwait left for Baghdad after consulting with the Japanese Government, the officials said.

But upon arrival, the Japanese were taken to the same hotel where U.S. and British citizens were taken after being forcibly rounded up in Kuwait, the officials said.

The Japanese were not allowed to leave the hotel or communicate with embassy staff, who were turned away from the hotel, the officials said.

Japanese nationals in Kuwait reached a consensus Tuesday with government officials that they should move to Baghdad, the officials said.

The Iraqi Government has ordered embassies in Kuwait to close by Friday, so it seemed possible that foreign nationals might enjoy more protection in Baghdad, where diplomatic missions are still recognized by the Iraqi Government, they said.

The Japanese left Kuwait for Baghdad on Wednesday and Thursday in four groups. They had reserved rooms in a hotel near the Japanese Embassy, but on arrival, three of the groups were taken by bus to Al-Mansu Melia, the hotel where Americans and British have been kept as "guests" of the Iraqi Government.

The fourth group's arrival could not be immediately confirmed.

A total of 278 Japanese had been stranded in Kuwait following the August 2 Iraqi invasion. There were some 31 left Thursday, plus two diplomats keeping the Japanese Embassy there open.

The Iraqi Government has indicated it will permit Japanese Embassy staff and their families to leave the country.

The Japanese Government has protested Iraq's detention of Japanese, reiterating calls for Baghdad to guarantee their safety and allow them to leave the country, Foreign Ministry officials said.

#### Embassy in Kuwait To Remain

*OW2308155090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1513 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Japan has no intention of closing its embassy in Iraqi-occupied Kuwait by Friday as ordered by Baghdad, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

Earlier in the day, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Tadamori Oshima said the embassy might be closed temporarily if its staff were in danger.

The senior Foreign Ministry official, Kunisada Kume, director general of the ministry's Consular and Migration Affairs Department, said Japan is united with other like-minded countries in opposing the shutdown of diplomatic missions in Kuwait.

Kume said the embassy, which at last report was surrounded by Iraqi soldiers, will be staffed by only two diplomats following the transfer of some 240 Japanese nationals from Kuwait to Baghdad over the past two days.

Some 160 of the Japanese were being held under house arrest in a Baghdad hotel Thursday night.

A top government official said earlier in the day that the Iraqi call to cease diplomatic functions in Kuwait is inconsistent with international law.

He said the diplomats are charged with the responsibility of ensuring the safety and well-being of the estimated 36 other Japanese nationals remaining in Kuwait.

Some 19 other countries are also reportedly refusing to close their embassies in Kuwait.

## Official Defends Actions

*OW2308155690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1458 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Japan on Thursday rejected foreign criticism that Japan is treading too softly in its approach to the Persian Gulf crisis.

A top Foreign Ministry official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity, was responding to comparisons of Japan's approach to the Gulf crisis with that of Britain.

Referring to statements on the crisis by Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the official said, "Mrs. Thatcher has her views on the how best to tackle the Gulf situation and we have ours."

He said that just because Japan's statements on the crisis have not been as strong as those of Britain, it does not mean that Japan has no intention of adopting a more forthright stance "when the time and place are right."

The official was apparently alluding to a reconciling of concerns over Iraq's refusal to allow Japanese nationals to leave Iraq and Kuwait with the timing of a package of contributions to international efforts aimed at countering Iraqi aggression in the Gulf region.

Analysts said Iraq is apparently using its hold over Japanese nationals as leverage to limit Japan's cooperation with multinational forces based in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as well naval forces in the region.

The top official rejected criticism that Japan, despite its being dependent on the Middle East for most of its oil, is putting the safety of its nationals abroad ahead of its international obligations.

The government, he said, has a responsibility to do its best to ensure the safety and well-being of its nationals in Iraq and Kuwait and, if possible, to facilitate their departure to third countries.

At the same time, however, the government is well aware of its international responsibilities in the present crisis and will do its best to meet them, he said.

The official said Japan has repeatedly made its position clear to the Iraqi Government, has implemented economic sanctions against Baghdad, and is planning to announce a set of contributions to international efforts in the region.

## Efforts To Return Citizens

*OW2408031290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0132 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 (KYODO)—The Japanese Government is making all-out efforts to secure the return home of 223 Japanese detained in a Baghdad hotel after being evacuated from Iraqi-occupied Kuwait, Foreign Ministry sources said Friday.

Ministry officials said 245 out of 278 Japanese living in Kuwait left for Baghdad in four groups Wednesday and Thursday after consulting with Japanese Government officials.

Upon arriving in Baghdad, 223 of the 245 evacuees were taken to the Al-Mansoor Melia Hotel where American and British citizens have been kept as "guests" of the Iraqi Government.

The detained Japanese were not allowed to contact people outside or to move freely, officials said.

Twenty-two of the 245 moved to Baghdad from Kuwait, including Japanese Embassy staff, their families, and an employee of the Japanese School in Kuwait, were released and eight of them have already left Baghdad and arrived in Jordan, the ministry officials said.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, now on a trip to the Middle East, said he will send Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, who is accompanying him, to the International Red Cross in Geneva to ask for the safe return home of the Japanese.

Japanese Government officials plan to contact the Iraqi Government directly to ask for freedom of movement and early return home of those detained and other Japanese in Iraq. They will also ask the United Nations and the International Red Cross for help, the ministry sources said.

There are 209 Japanese living in Iraq besides those moved from Kuwait.

Two Japanese Embassy officials and 31 Japanese who did not want to move to Baghdad still remain in Kuwait, the ministry officials said.

According to a report from the Japanese Embassy in Kuwait, the embassy, along with those of the United States and Britain, has been encircled by Iraqi soldiers, whose numbers have been reinforced.

The Iraqi authorities have demanded that embassies in Kuwait should close by noon Friday.

### Kaifu, Sakamoto Condemn Detention

*OW2408061990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0558 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 (KYODO)—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu condemned Iraq on Thursday for confining to a hotel 213 Japanese who fled to Baghdad from Kuwait and pledged to seek help from the International Red Cross to secure their release.

Calling the restrictions on the detainees "inhumane, unacceptable, and illegal under international law," Kaifu said Japan will turn to international organizations to press for their safe return home.

"This is not a problem for Japan alone," Kaifu said, in an apparent reference to thousands of Westerners detained in Iraq.

Kaifu told reporters that the detention of Japanese nationals will not affect plans to aid international efforts to restore the rightful Kuwaiti Government following Iraq's August 2 invasion.

"It is not a matter of which is more important, we have to do both. But right now protection of Japanese is more urgent," he said in response to a reporter's query.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto, in a prepared statement, harshly criticized Iraq and said Japan will come up with concrete measures to bolster anti-Iraqi sanctions "as soon as possible."

Later in the day Sakamoto told reporters to expect an "outline" of Japan's assistance plan in the latter half of next week, and a final draft in early September.

Sakamoto, who returned to Tokyo two days early from a summer vacation, indicated the Diet could be specially convened if it is necessary to change laws.

He was referring to a law that restricts the dispatch of rescue teams in case of natural disasters.

Other measures under consideration include technical and financial aid to countries neighboring Iraq, dispatch of volunteer medical teams, and aid to Kuwaiti refugees.

On Wednesday and Thursday 245 Japanese flew to Baghdad from Kuwait.

Iraq has demanded that all diplomatic missions in Kuwait shut down by noon Friday.

Citizens of other countries were also reported to be leaving Kuwait for Iraq in convoys as embassies reduced staff to minimum levels.

Most countries have announced plans to defy the closure order.

After arriving in Baghdad, 213 of the Japanese were taken to the Al-Mansoor Melia Hotel where the Iraqi Government earlier confined U.S. and British citizens forcibly rounded up in Kuwait, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Thirty-two Japanese with diplomatic and other special passport status were allowed to go free and eight of them have already left Baghdad and arrived in Jordan, the officials said.

The Foreign Ministry said earlier that 223 Japanese were detained in the hotel but revised the figure later.

The detainees have been told not to leave the hotel and have been denied telephone contact with embassy personnel, they said.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, on his way to Stockholm after ending a Middle East tour, said Friday he will send Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, who is accompanying him, to the International Red Cross in Geneva to try to arrange the detainees' safe return home.

Japan also plans to make contact with Baghdad to request permission for Japanese in Iraq to return home, Foreign Ministry officials said.

There are 209 Japanese stranded in Iraq in addition to those who fled from Kuwait. Two Japanese Embassy officials and 31 Japanese remain in Kuwait.

### Sakamoto States Stance

*OW2408090790 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0400 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Statement issued by Misoji Sakamoto, chief cabinet secretary of Japan, on the Middle East situation—live]

[Text] [Video shows Sakamoto seated at a table, facing reporters in a conference room] I would like to issue a statement as chief cabinet secretary:

On 2 August, Iraq invaded Kuwait and annexed it in violation of international law. The government has strongly condemned these reckless acts and demanded that Iraq immediately withdraw its troops from Kuwait and restore the legitimate government of Kuwait. The government decided to impose economic sanctions against Iraq on 5 August and has since enforced the decision. Indeed, the overwhelming majority of the world's nations have made active efforts in the past three weeks to enforce the resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council. We are very concerned that the Iraqi Government is not responding to these nations' calls.

The UN Security Council, after passing resolutions on economic sanctions, called for guaranteeing the security of foreigners in Iraq and Kuwait and allowing those wishing to leave to do so. The UN secretary general subsequently sent special envoys to Iraq to discuss the matter, but the Iraqi Government has so far failed to give a progressive response.

The Iraqi Government continues to act against treaties and international laws that obligate countries, in handling foreigners, to guarantee freedom to leave a country. This is truly an impermissible situation.

The government, since the situation developed, has done its best to ensure the security of Japanese there in consultations with other countries concerned. Large numbers of foreigners, including many Japanese from Kuwait, are in Iraq with their freedom virtually removed by the Iraqi Government. We must say that this is an act that cannot be permitted in international society.

The government is resolved to redouble its efforts to help solve the situation and to secure the safety of Japanese. On the other hand, Japan has the responsibility to do its part for international peace and stability and must make contributions for the restoration of peace in cooperation with other countries concerned.

The government will prepare specific plans to do this as soon as possible. In view of the gravity of the situation, we would like to have the understanding of all citizens.

### Diplomatic Presence Reaffirmed

*OW2408122490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1118 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 KYODO—An Iraqi Army vehicle arrived at the entrance of the Japanese Embassy in Iraqi-occupied Kuwait as Iraq's noon Friday deadline for the evacuation of all embassy personnel passed, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe, speaking to foreign correspondents just before the reported approach of the Iraqi military vehicle, said diplomats in the embassy had earlier reported the situation outside the compound to be calm, though four Iraqi soldiers and an official clothed in civilian attire were posted around it.

Watanabe reiterated that there is no change in the Japanese Government's stance of not voluntarily vacating the embassy, but added that the threat of Iraqi force could bring about a withdrawal.

Only two Japanese diplomats remained in the embassy Friday after Japan evacuated 245 Japanese nationals from Kuwait to Baghdad on Wednesday and Thursday.

Rejecting an Iraqi Government notice that their diplomatic immunity would no longer be respected after the imposed deadline, Watanabe said, "Our fundamental position is that they should continue to enjoy diplomatic status."

"But if they are forced to move ... then we have instructed those two officials that their physical safety should be given higher priority," the spokesman said.

A forced eviction, Watanabe added, "would be a violation of international law," as Iraq's annexation of Kuwait has been deemed invalid by the international community.

In such an event, he said, Japan would continue to claim a diplomatic presence in Kuwait and would protest the matter to Iraq.

He would not say whether Japan would reciprocate by expelling Iraqi diplomats from Tokyo.

### Territories Dispute Hinders Soviet Cooperation

*OW2308130790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1210 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Perestroyka reforms will aid trade links but the territorial dispute between Japan and the Soviet Union hinders greater economic cooperation, governors of both countries said Thursday.

Governors of 20 Japanese prefectures joined with 18 Soviet regional officials to open the 11th Japan-Soviet governors' conference on economic and cultural exchange, the first in 10 years.

Japan had boycotted the meeting in the past decade in protest against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Many Soviet participants said trade between their regions and Japan had grown much since the early 1980s. I.V. Belotserkovskiy [name as received], head of the Russian Federation's foreign trade office, cited a five-fold rise in trade from 1981 to 1989, when the figure reached 250 million dollars.

Osaka Governor Sakae Kishi also lauded the "bright prospects" for trade, but called for a solution to Japan's claim to four Soviet-occupied islands off the Japanese north coast.

Irkutsk chairman Y.A. Nozhikov [name as received] criticized national governments in Tokyo and Moscow for being too rigid in their thinking toward the islands issue, saying it was a hindrance to furthering relations.

But delegation head I.M. Cherepanov, chairman of Moscow's ruling soviet, said he did not "agree 100 percent" with those who said the problem blocked economic ties, warning that too much emphasis on the dispute could push ties in the wrong direction.

Heads of territories from the Soviet Far East, such as Khabarovsk, Novosibirsk and Irkutsk, were well represented at the conference. This reflects the growing links between the resource-rich Soviet region and Japan, worth about 178 million dollars in the first 10 months of 1989, according to Soviet figures.

Trade with the Soviet Union in 1989 amounted to less than 1.3 percent of Japan's total foreign trade, and reflects a resources-for-products exchange. Soviet timber, fish, coal and foodstuffs are exchanged for Japanese consumer goods and industrial machinery.

But several speakers mentioned joint ventures and infrastructure projects involving Japanese firms with some Soviet participants, saying that recent moves toward private ownership of land and natural resources under perestroyka would contribute to this.

Many Soviet heads said the lack of private ownership and the inconvertibility of the ruble presented difficulties in working out joint business ventures.

The conference's joint communique, making only indirect references to the territorial dispute, called on both sides to increase trade and cultural links in the future. The meeting agreed on a 12th session in Moscow in 1992.

Japan has long called for the return of Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan islands and the Habomai group of islets, located just east of Hokkaido, which the Soviet Union seized immediately after World War II.

The Soviet delegation departs Wednesday for an industrial and cultural tour of Japan, which boasts some 23 sister city ties with Soviet cities. Delegation members return home on August 31.

## Trade Group To Discuss North Korean Debt

*OW2408132690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0939 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 KYODO—The Japan-(North) Korea Trade Association will send a mission to North Korea this year to resolve the 70 billion yen debt owed to Japan, an association official said Friday.

A schedule for the visit will be worked out by this autumn after consultations with Japanese creditor banks and corporations, Managing Director Riichiro Aikawa told reporters.

The Japanese association groups major banks, trading houses, and corporations and acts as an intermediary between the Japanese business community and North Korea.

Aikawa visited Pyongyang in late July at the invitation of North Korea to discuss ways to promote bilateral trade. This was the first trip to North Korea by an association official since Chairman Yoichi Tani visited in October 1986.

Aikawa said the North Koreans told him that Pyongyang is ready to invite Japanese creditors to visit to settle the debt issue.

Aikawa said he does not know what proposals North Korea will make, but some creditors expect Pyongyang to request a rescheduling of the debt beyond the deadline set under a current agreement. Under the agreement, North Korea was to pay the debt by the end of last year.

A joint mission from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the opposition Japan Socialist Party will also visit North Korea in September for talks with government leaders.

Sources familiar with Japan-North Korea relations said the visits by the political and trade missions will help normalize the current cool ties between the two countries, which have no diplomatic relations. Relations between Tokyo and Pyongyang have been deadlocked since the 1987 bombing of a South Korean jetliner by North Korean agents. Japan imposed sanctions in retaliation.

## Saudi Oil Firm To End Supply; Impact on Japan

*OW2208123890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 22 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Samarec, a major Saudi Arabian oil refining and marketing company, will suspend its supply of oil products in September, Japanese industry sources said Wednesday.

The state-owned corporation will stop shipments of products including gasoline and jet fuel from its Jubail refinery, apparently so it can supply U.S. troops stationed in the country, the sources said.

The sources said the move will have a significant impact on Japan. About 40 percent of Japan's diesel fuel, and 13 percent of its jet fuel, came from Saudi Arabia in the first half of this year. About 80 percent of Saudi Arabia's oil products are produced by the Jubail refinery.

Prices of oil products have kept rising since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2 gave rise to fears of another oil crisis. Aggressive U.S. military purchases of such products are a big factor behind the recent spiral in prices on worldwide markets, the industry sources said.

Some oil importers have begun to seek other sources to replace the Saudi products, according to the sources.

"The damage will be great if the suspension continues beyond September," an official at a major oil company said.

Meanwhile, the Natural Resources and Energy Agency has decided to allow oil companies to use private-sector stockpiles to expand domestic production of oil products, sources at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said. The agency is an office under MITI.

The agency had requested Japanese oil companies to increase their production of oil products by using 3.6 million kiloliters more of crude oil in order to cover the supply shortage following Japan's ban on oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait. Kuwait supplied 14.2 percent of Japan's oil products.

The private sector has stockpiled enough crude oil for 88 days of consumption. There is also 54 days worth of crude in a government stockpile. The sources calculated that the stockpiles will decrease by three days of supply if half the expansion is covered by the private-sector stocks.

### Government, Industry Calm

*OW2308122090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0825 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Japanese authorities and leaders were calm despite the benchmark crude oil price soaring above 30 dollars a barrel in Tokyo on Thursday. They said the increase was speculative, and they will be alert to further rises.

The price for Dhubai crude for October delivery, the benchmark on the Tokyo crude oil spot market, opened Thursday at the 29.80-90 dollar level and soon soared above 30 dollars per barrel to its highest level since November 19, 1982, when it marked 31 dollars per barrel.

Crude oil prices in Tokyo have been stable after the benchmark hit the 26 dollar level on August 7, after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

But the calmness was broken by reports Saudi Arabia will stop the supply of petroleum products such as diesel oil and kerosene to countries including Japan from September.

Industry sources said that the steep rise was also fueled by the U.S. announcement that it would not use its strategic oil stockpile.

With fears of military conflict in the Middle East, such reports raised crude oil prices in both London and New York prior to the opening of the Tokyo market. The price of U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI), for instance, soared above 30 dollars per barrel Wednesday.

Officials of the Petroleum Association of Japan said the leap in Tokyo was triggered chiefly by speculators. They said it is difficult to predict when prices will peak, but they expect the market will calm when member countries of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) increase production.

Officials at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said the jump does not reflect real demand and supply. The government will monitor further moves in prices, they said.

Industry analysts said excessively high crude oil prices will encourage non-OPEC oil producing countries to boost their production.

To avoid this, countries like Saudi Arabia could increase its production, the analysts said. They said the proposed OPEC meeting in Vienna on the weekend will be the key to further moves of oil prices in the near future.

Some analysts predicted crude oil prices will not drop below 23-24 dollars per barrel, although the market will regain stability.

### Saudis To Increase Supply

*OW2308121890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0918 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Saudi Arabia has informed Japanese customers that it is ready to increase crude oil supplies starting in September, oil industry sources said Thursday.

The sources said the Saudis are apparently planning to boost oil production beyond their OPEC-set ceiling to make up for embargoed Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil.

The disclosure came the day after Samarec, the Saudi Arabian oil refining and marketing organization, was reported to have told Japanese customers that it would not supply petroleum products in September.

The sources said the increased crude oil supply seems intended to make up for the petroleum products that will not be available in September.

The oil embargo on Iraq and Kuwait has cost Japan 450,000 barrels of oil a day, but Japanese oil refiners and trading houses have secured supplies for September from Iran.

The increased supply from Saudi Arabia could guarantee a stable oil supply for the winter, the sources added.

### Reportage on Foreign Minister's Visit to Turkey

*WA2308144890*

For reportage on the visit by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to Turkey, including reports on his talks with President Turgut Ozal, Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut, and Foreign Minister Ali Bozer, please see the Turkey section of the 24 August West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

## North Korea

### N-S Agreement on Transportation, Communications

*SK2308155590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1536 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Panmunjom August 23 (KCNA)—A working contact between the chief liaison officials of both sides on the North-South High-Level Talks was held today at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom.

Agreed upon at the contact were means of transportation for the members of the delegations to the talks and communication.

It was agreed to travel by train or car and follow the precedent in communication.

### Newspaper Condemns Arrests of Students in South

*SK2408042490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the fact that gangsters of the anti-communist office of the South Korean puppet police headquarters kidnapped the former chairperson of the Women Student Council of Seoul University and another student council leader on August 20.

The news analyst says:

After being kidnapped, they are under "investigation" at the anti-communist office of the puppet police headquarters. This makes it obvious that the fascists scheme to fake up another "case" by branding them as "leftist, pro-communist elements."

The No Tae-u fascist group, dismayed at the rapidly mounting sentiments of longing for the northern half of the country and the vigorous reunification movement in South Korea, has listed some 100 "seditious" students of 21 universities across South Korea and is searching for them and arrested women students for having read progressive books and participated in seminars on them.

The recent abduction case is part of the brutal fascist repressive campaign of the No Tae-u group.

What must not be overlooked is that a few days after the No Tae-u group "acquitted" fascist hangmen involved in the murder of student Pak Chong-chol, the former student activists were kidnapped by murderers of the anti-communist office of the "police headquarters" where Pak Chong-chol was tortured to death.

The No Tae-u group plans to bridge over the present ruling crisis with recourse to torture and prison and at the point of the bayonet, but it is a foolish dream.

The No Tae-u group must look straight at the situation, immediately release the kidnapped persons and step down without delay, as demanded by the South Korean people.

### U.S. Military Augmentation in Gulf Scored

*SK2408064990 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0500 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] According to reports from Washington, the U.S. imperialists are spurring on the preparations of augmenting the armed forces in the Gulf area where a complicated situation has developed due to the Iraq-Kuwait conflict.

On 18 August, the U.S. Defense Department announced that some units of the 1st and 2d U.S. Armored Divisions based in Fort Hood, Texas, have begun to make preparations to leave for Saudi Arabia.

At the same time, nine naval ships of the (?reserve) fleet of the U.S. imperialists' military sealift command are reportedly getting ready to leave soon for the Gulf area.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Defense Department announced that more than 38 commercial aircraft can be assigned to the U.S. forces to transport troops and materials to the Gulf area.

The facts show that the scope of the U.S. imperialists' armed intervention in the Gulf area is expanding each day.

### U.S. Proposal for Chonminnyon Meeting Decried

*SK2408040090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0356 GMT 24 Aug 90*

["U.S. Embassy Urged To Have Open Symposium"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—The coalition of national democratic movement [National Democratic Alliance of Korea] (Chonminnyon) and the National Council of [University] Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) of South Korea on August 22 proposed to the U.S. Embassy in Seoul to have a working-level contact on August 29 for the discussion of the date and agenda of the symposium concerning the Kwangju problem and other pressing problems arising in South Korea- U.S. relations, according to a report.

On July 25, these organizations urged the U.S. Embassy to have an open symposium with regard to the withdrawal of the nuclear weapons and the U.S. forces from South Korea.

The embassy acceded to their demand under the pressure of public opinion, but it proposed to have it in camera, not in public.

In this connection, these organizations said "the U.S. Embassy's proposal to have the symposium in camera is not an attitude responsible for the people". They urged once again an open symposium on peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula.

### U.S. Urged To Respond to 'Peace Overtures'

*SK2308110090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 23 Aug 90*

["Splittist Counter Flow Against Korean Reunification"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with an article denouncing the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique for desperately opposing the reunification of Korea for its permanent division.

Drawing attention to the fact that the United States is only seeking a permanent division of Korea even today when the Pan-National Rally for Peace and Reunification of the Country ended in success with the attendance

of Koreans in the North, the South and overseas for making the 1990s a historical decade of national reunification, the author of the article says:

If the question of peace and reunification of Korea is to be settled, the DPRK-U.S. talks and tripartite talks must be held on discuss the elimination of the military confrontation, relaxation of tensions, the replacement of the armistice agreement with a peace agreement and the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

We have made all sincere efforts to this end.

The United States, however, has evaded the improvement of the DPRK-U.S. relations, urged by the splittist and belligerent line on Korea. It is refusing to sit face to face with us and turning a deaf ear to our just demands for the conclusion of a peace agreement and withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons. Yet it is trying to shift on to us the responsibility for the failure of the settlement of the Korean question and of the improvement of the DPRK-U.S. relations.

For instances, the U.S. White House Spokesman Fitzwater said some time ago that the "speed and scope of the improvement of the relations" between the DPRK and the U.S. depended on North's posture and the Americans are these days claiming "priority of improvement of North-South relations".

But, it is well known a fact that the United States has egged the South Korean authorities behind the scene on to oppose the improvement of the North-South relations and suspend dialogue which was arranged with so much difficulty and blocked the way of North-South dialogue by committing military and other provocations against the DPRK such as large-scale military manoeuvres.

The United States is clamouring about the "improvement of North-South relations" with a view to evading its duty as a party responsible for the Korean question.

The U.S. authorities brought forward a "military reduction concept" in an attempt to lull the strong demand of the Korean and the world's peoples for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from South Korea, but conditional on its not affecting the combat capability and, in actuality, it is aimed at reinforcing their aggression forces and stepping up their occupation policy.

U.S. President Bush declared that the cardinal role of U.S. troops in South Korea would not shake while the U.S. Defence Secretary Cheney said the U.S. troops will stay in South Korea "as long as the United States wants".

This is a shameless rigmarole indicating that the U.S. imperialists will keep a military hold on South Korea for an indefinite period for the purpose of war and leave Korea divided by force.

"Entry into the United Nations" and "cross recognition" peddled by the U.S. imperialists and the splittists within and without are an expedient of realizing the dream of "two Koreas".

The "northern policy" put by the United States in the hands of the South Korean puppets is to isolate the DPRK on the international arena and attain their ultimate goal of "anti-communist reunification".

The United States must discard its line of division and war against the Korean people, affirmatively respond to the DPRK's peace overtures including the proposal for tripartite talks and take its troops and nuclear weapons out of South Korea.

## U.S. Position on Democracy in North Denounced

*SK2408051690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 24 Aug 90*

["Who Tells Whom?"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the strange claim of the U.S. authorities that "democratization in North Korea is indispensable" for the reunification of Korea.

Lurking behind this outcry is a sinister attempt to cover up their hostile attitude toward Korea and the crimes of the splittists within and without in blocking the reunification of Korea and to keep Korea divided indefinitely, the paper in a signed commentary says, and continues:

The harsh military fascist rule of the South Korean puppet clique under the domination of U.S. imperialism is one of the major factors in the way of the reunification of Korea.

If Korea is to be reunified, the people of all strata in the North and the South and abroad who want reunification should meet and visit each other to have dialogue for reunification and pool strength. But the South Korean authorities are dead set against this democratic and patriotic demand.

All the participants in the reunification, patriotic movement in the South are targets of arrest, imprisonment and murder, hit by tear gas canisters and truncheons.

The democratization of South Korean society is one of the most urgent and indispensable requirements for the acceleration of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The U.S. authorities shut their mouth as to this and clamoured about the "necessity of democratization" of the North in an attempt to hoodwink people as to the real factor blocking the reunification of Korea.

The United States must redress its Korean policy and help democratize South Korean society, not clamouring about "necessity of democratization" in the North.

An indispensable condition for the peace and reunification of Korea is to force the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons, a root cause of division and war, out of South Korea and democratize South Korean society.

## Soviet Scientific, Technical Delegation Departs

*SK2308223290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1535 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The Soviet Government scientific and technological delegation headed by Nikolay Lavenrov, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, flew back today.

It was seen off at the airport by Chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology Yi Cha-pang and Soviet Ambassador to Korea Gennadiy Bartoshevich.

During the stay in Korea, the delegation visited Mangyongdae, Kim Il-song University, Pyongyang metro and the West Sea barrage.

## Navy Flotilla Leaves for Goodwill USSR Visit

*SK2308221290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1532 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—A flotilla of the Navy of the Korean People's Army [KPA] led by Vice Admiral Kwon Sang-ho left today for a goodwill visit to the Soviet Union.

Vice Admiral Hwang Sok-kyon of the KPA and an official of the Soviet Embassy here saw it off.

It was accompanied by a naval art propaganda squad.

## Kim Il-song Receives Koreans From Soviet Union

*SK2308231590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2311 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received the members of the home-visiting group of Koreans in the Soviet Union on August 23.

Officials concerned were on hand.

President Kim Il-song conversed in a cordial atmosphere overflowing with compatriotic feelings with the members of the home-visiting group including compatriots who participated in the past three-year-long fatherland liberation war.

He arranged a luncheon for them.

## PRC Defense Minister, Military Group Visit

### Editorial Welcomes Delegation

*SK2308113090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0007 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[NODONG SINMUN 23 August editorial: "Friendship Mission of the Fraternal Chinese People and Army"]

[Text] A PRC military friendship delegation led by Comrade Colonel General Qin Jiwei, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and state councillor and concurrently national defense minister of the PRC, will arrive in Pyongyang today for an official goodwill visit to our country. Our people and officers and men of the People's Army warmly welcome the visit to our country of Comrade Qin Jiwei and his party, the mission of friendship.

The visit to our country of the PRC military friendship delegation led by Comrade Qin Jiwei will actively contribute to further developing the relations of traditional friendship and cooperation between the peoples and Armies of Korea and China. The visit will also encourage our people and soldiers who are vigorously struggling to accelerate socialist construction and to achieve the historic cause of national reunification.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The Korean- Chinese friendship is not only a traditional friendship forged in blood in the joint struggle against imperialism, for peace, and for the victory of the cause of socialism, but is also a solid friendship, which has been constantly strengthened and developed through mutual visits and meetings between the leaders of the two countries.

The people of Korea and China are class brothers and intimate comrades-in-arms who, since a long time ago, have linked their destinies into one and have shared their joys, sorrows, and fates alike with each other in the struggle against the common enemy. In the early days, the revolutionaries of the two countries of Korea and China fought together against the Japanese imperialists, their common enemies. The Korean-Chinese friendship, which took roots in the flames of the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, was more firmly deepened in the period of the formidable fatherland liberation war.

The Chinese People's Voluteers, the outstanding sons and daughters of the Chinese people, fought together shoulder to shoulder with the Korean people and Army against the U.S. imperialists in the Korean front. The flower garden of Korean- Chinese friendship is still in full bloom today. The solidness and invincibility of the Korean-Chinese friendship—which was forged in blood and which has overcome all sorts of trials of history—have been firmly guaranteed by the relations of deep fraternity and intimacy between the leaders of the two countries.

The recent meeting and talks in Pyongyang between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and esteemed Comrade Jiang Zemin were an epochal event that developed the Korean-Chinese friendship onto a new plane. The

Korean-Chinese friendship, which is strengthening and developing with each passing day, has greatly contributed to accelerating the revolution and construction in the two countries and to defending peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

The diligent and brave Chinese people have built a prosperous new China on their vast land by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude under the leadership of the CPC. In particular, in recent years, by adhering to the four basic principles and deepening reforms and opening up, the Chinese people have been registering outstanding successes in the struggle to build socialism with Chinese characteristics. As ideological and political indoctrination work is strengthened, noble traits are being enhanced among the broad segments of the masses. Socialism has firmly taken roots on the land of China, and the Chinese people have come to realize the superiority of socialism through their practical lives.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army [CPLA], as the Army of the party and the people, has traversed the road of victory and glory and has registered proud achievements. The CPLA has grown and has been strengthened politically, ideologically, militarily, and technologically. It has also performed exploits in the struggle to realize the four modernizations while reliably defending the gains of socialism.

The Korean people and the People's Army sincerely rejoice, as they were their own, over all successes achieved by the fraternal Chinese people and the CPLA. The vitality of the Korean-Chinese friendship has been fully proven through the long period of struggle.

The Chinese people and Army have extended active support for and firm solidarity with the just cause of our people and Army to build socialism and to reunify the country under the wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea, headed by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song. The Korean people and Army actively support the Chinese people's struggle to build a rich, powerful, and modernized socialism under the leadership of the CPC with Comrade Jiang Zemin as its core and to reunify the whole country according to the policy of one country and two systems. They also sincerely wish the Chinese people greater success in their struggle for this.

The visit to our country of the Chinese military friendship delegation led by Comrade Qin Jiwei constitutes clear proof of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples and between the armies of Korea and China. Constantly strengthening and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation with the Chinese people and Army generation after generation is precisely the firm will of our people and Army.

Our people and Army will, in the future, too, as in the past, struggle shoulder to shoulder together with the fraternal Chinese people and Army while strengthening the militant friendship and kindred ties with them on the single road of struggle for the victory of the socialist cause.

## Defense Ministers Hold Talks

*SK2308151090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—Talks between O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, and Qin Jiwei, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, state councillor and minister of national defence of the People's Republic of China, were held here today, at which the sides reached a full consensus on the matters discussed.

Present at the talks on our side were General Chon Mun-sop, Colonel Generals Yi Pong-won and Cho Myong-nok, Admiral Kim Il-chol and other generals and officers of the KPA [Korean People's Army].

Present on the Chinese side were the members of the goodwill military delegation Lieutenant General Yu Yongpa, deputy director of the General Political Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army [CPLA], Lieutenant General Gu Hui, commander of the Nanjing Military Area Command of the CPLA, Vice Admiral Zhang Xusan, deputy commander of the Navy of the CPLA, Major General Zeng Jianning, deputy director of the General Office of the Central Military Commission, and Wang Dahui, military attache of the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang, and other suites and Chinese Ambassador Zheng Yi.

## Ministers Address Banquet

*SK2308155090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The Ministry of People's Armed Forces arranged a banquet this evening at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in honor of the friendship military delegation of the People's Republic of China on an official goodwill visit to Korea.

Speeches were made at the banquet by O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, and Qin Jiwei, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, state councillor and minister of national defence of the PRC.

In his speech O Chin-u said the current visit of the goodwill military delegation of the People's Republic of China will mark another occasion in demonstrating to the whole world the unbreakable and everlasting nature of the militant friendship forged in blood between the peoples and Armies of the two countries who are advancing under the uplifted banner of socialism at a time when the imperialists are trying to disintegrate socialism from within.

The fraternal Chinese people and People's Liberation Army, he stressed, has registered great achievements in the endeavours to achieve stability and unity of the people of the whole country, build a modernized socialist power with Chinese characteristics and carry out the revolutionisation, modernization and regularization of the Army.

The Korean people and People's Army officers and men rejoice as over their own over all the achievements mad by the fraternal Chinese people and People's Liberation Army officers and men in the efforts to realize the modernization of the country and increase defence capability, upholding the banner of socialism under the leadership of the Communist Party of China with Comrade Jiang Zemin at the core, he said, and went on:

The friendly relations between peoples and armies of Korea and China are not ordinary relations but special ones. They fought jointly against Japanese imperialism in the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle and shoulder to shoulder with each other in the same trench against U.S. imperialism during the fatherland liberation war, and, in this course, have forged unbreakable blood ties of friendship.

The unofficial visit of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to China last year and the Korean visit by Comrade General Secretary Jiang Zemin in March this year were signal events which strengthened and developed the friendly relations between the two countries onto a new higher stage.

The Korean people and People's Army soldiers will as ever make every possible effort to carry forward and develop the traditional Korea-China friendship generation after generation.

Qin Jiwei spoke next.

Extending greetings of the Chinese people and all the officers and men of the Chinese People's Liberation Army to their Korean friends, he said:

Over the past 30 odd years after the war the Korean people and the People's Army under the leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea have built a new socialist Korea independent in politics, self- sustaining in economy and self-reliant in national defence on the ruins of war, overcoming manifold hardships in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle. The KPA has achieved fresh achievements one after another in its modernization, played a great role in the defence and building of the country and performed new feats for the country and the people. As your comrades-in-arms, we are sincerely rejoiced over your achievements and are greatly inspired by them.

It is the desire of the entire Korean people to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country at an early date. The Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean Government have long exerted persistent efforts for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and made a number of proposals and propositions to this end. Particularly, in may this year President Kim Il-song advanced the five-point policy for the settlement of the Korean reunification question. These propositions are very favourable to easing the tension and removing confrontation on the Korean peninsula and promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

We resolutely support you in your just struggle to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

We hold that the U.S. forces withdraw from South Korea and Korea be reunified by the Korean people themselves without foreign interference. We believe that Korea, the golden tapestry of three thousand ri, will surely be reunified thanks to the persistent efforts of the Korean people and the people of the same blood living separated in the North and the South will are certain to be able live together.

The Chinese and Korean peoples and Armies have traditional relations of friendship. The mutual visits of President Kim Il-song and Comrade General Secretary Jiang Zemin in November last year and in March this year helped further consolidate and develop the friendly relations between the two parties, two countries and two Armies. No matter what happens in the world, the cause of socialism will surely emerge triumphant. The Chinese people and Army will as ever make strenuous efforts to develop the Sino- Korean friendship and militant solidarity.

## U.S. Withdrawal Demanded

*SK2308160090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1538 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—We hold that the U.S. forces withdraw from South Korea and Korea be reunified by the Korean people themselves without foreign interference, said Qin Jiwei, minister of national defence of China, in his speech at a banquet arranged by the Ministry of People's Armed Forces at the Mansudae Assembly Hall here today in welcome of the Chinese goodwill military delegation on an official friendly visit to Korea.

Qin Jiwei who is also member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and state councillor said:

It is the desire of the entire Korean people to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country at an early date. The Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean Government have long exerted persistent efforts for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and made a number of proposals and propositions to this end. In particular, in May this year President Kim Il-song advanced the five-point policy for the settlement of the Korean reunification question. These propositions are very favourable to easing the tension and removing confrontation on the Korean peninsula and promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

We resolutely support you in your just struggle to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

We believe that Korea, the golden tapestry of three thousand ri, will surely be reunified thanks to the persistent efforts of the Korean people and the people of the same blood living separated in the North and the South are certain to be able to live together.

The Chinese people and Army will as ever make strenuous efforts to develop the Sino-Korean friendship and militant solidarity, Qin Jiwei stressed.

### Defense Ministers Meet Again

*SK2408050290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, Friday paid a return call on head of the goodwill military delegation of the People's Republic of China Qin Jiwei, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, state councillor and minister of national defence of the PRC, on an official goodwill visit to Korea.

Present there were Colonel General Yi Pong-won and officers of the Korean People's Army, the members of the delegation and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi.

The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

### O Chin-u Reaffirms Friendship

*SK2408105290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—The Korean people and People's Army soldiers will do their utmost to steadily consolidate the great Korea-China friendship and will always remain revolutionary comrades-in-arms of the Chinese comrades in advancing under the banner of socialism, declared O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, at a soldiers' meeting which was held here today to welcome the Chinese goodwill military delegation led by Qin Jiwei, minister of national defence.

O Chin-u said:

The warm welcome of the Korean People's Army [KPA] soldiers to the Chinese goodwill military deleagation is a clear expression of their unshakable will to carry forward the traditional Korea-China friendship generation after generation and fight shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Chinese people and the soliders of the Chinese People's Liberation Army [CPLA] under the banner of socialism through any storm and stress.

The Korean people and People's Army soldiers will as ever victoriously fight shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Chinese people and CPLA soldiers under the banner of Korea- China friendship in the joint struggle against imperialism and for the cause of socialism.

Turning to the reunification of Korea, O Chin-u said the KPA soldiers are energetically working to implement the military line of our party with the determination to accomplish the cause of national reunification in the 1990s without fail, whatever desperate efforts the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique may make, resorting to the "two Koreas" plot.

### Possibility of Regional Security Group 'Slim'

*SK2408104590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea said there still remain in Asia outstanding problems such as the Korean peninsula, the Kampuchean [Cambodian] question and other territorial problems in which the interests of the states concerned conflict. Therefore the practical possibility of forming a consultative organisation concerning the security matters in the Asia-Pacific region before these problems are settled is slim, we think, he stated.

Answering questions put by a KCNA reporter on August 24 in connection with the current discourse on this issue, the spokesman noted that though a phase of detente is gradually opening in the international situation today, new disputes and tensions are being created in some areas. He outlined the prevailing situation in the Asia-Pacific region.

The prerequisite to the guarantee of security in the Asia-Pacific region is to remove the actual source of threat to peace and security in the region such as withdrawing foreign armed forces from there and realising disarmament and, preferentially, the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons must be pulled out of the Korean peninsula where the danger of a nuclear war is biggest in Asia, he said, and declared:

The Korean people will actively strive to realise peace and peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula at an early date through dialogue and negotiation and attain security and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region .

### Koreans From Japan Arrive for Anniversary

*SK2308221790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1533 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—A congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan led by Yi Chin-kyu, first vice chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), arrived here today to participate in the celebrations of the 42nd founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It was met at the airport by Yun Ki-pok, Chang Chol, and other officials concerned.

## Trade Group to Syria; Foreign Visitors Arrive

*SK2308155290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—A Korean Government trade delegation headed by Pang Tae-yul, vice-minister of foreign trade, left here today for a visit to Syria.

A delegation of Central University of Ecuador headed by its president Tiberio Jurado Cevallos and a delegation of Portugal for the study of the chuche idea headed by Miguel Boieiro, mayor of Alcochete, arrived in Pyongyang today.

A visiting-group and a sports team of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) arrived in Wonsan Wednesday by ship "Samjiyon" for a visit to the socialist homeland.

## Kim Il-song Sends Gift to Ugandan President

*SK2408042090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a gift to President Yoweri Museveni of the Republic of Uganda.

The gift film "visit to Korea of His Excellency Yoweri Museveni, president of the Republic of Uganda and chairman of the National Resistance Movement," was conveyed to President Yoweri Museveni by Korean Ambassador to his country Kim Tae-yong on August 20.

Yoweri Museveni expressed deep thanks for the gift and said that the stand of Uganda in supporting Korea's reunification is invariable and consistent.

## Students' March From Mt. Paektu Reported

*SK2408035990 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 22 Aug 90*

[Text] An excursion march group of university students from across the country has begun its excursion march from Chong-il Peak to Yongnam Hill. The excursion march group this time marks the 30th anniversary of the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il's far-reaching plan to glorify Korea in the entire world, upholding the lofty intent of the great leader, during the days of engraving his immortal footprints on Kim Il-song University. Included in the march was a large number of students from universities in the capital city, Kim Chong-suk University of Education [Kim Chong-suk sabom taehak], Kim Chong-tae University of Education [Kim Chong-tae sabom taehak], Wonsan University of Economics [Wonsan kyongje taehak], Hamhung University of Chemical Engineering [Hamhung hwajak kongop taehak], Chongjin University of Mining and Metallurgy [Chongjin kwangsan kumsok taehak], Pyongnam University of Coal Mining [Pyongnam soktan kongop taehak], Sinuiju University of Light Industry [Sinuiju kyonggongop taehak], Sariwon University of Medicine [Sariwon uihak taehak], and other universities and colleges throughout the country.

After mounting Mt. Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution, the march group will make an excursion march extending more than 800 kilometers from Chong-il Peak in the historical secret camp on Mt. Paektu to Yongnam Hill in the capital city through the revolutionary battle sites and the historic sites of the revolution in Yanggang, Chagang, North Pyongan, and South Pyongan Provinces.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The lofty duty to inherit and consummate, generation after generation, the revolutionary cause of chuche pioneered by the young communists of Korea, and which has been developed through our people's arduous struggle, has been assigned precisely to the young people of our times.

The excursion march group, consisting of university students across the country, yesterday visited the old home of the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il in the secret camp on Mt. Paektu where he was born, and there they held an opening ceremony at the foot of Chong- il Peak.

At the ceremony, Yang Tok-chan, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, made a report, and after the report, discussions were held.

The reporter and those participating in the discussions said that participation in the excursion march to significantly greet the 30th anniversary of the lofty oath the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il took at the foot of Yongnam Hill to lead Korea to a brilliant future is great glory and pride. They stressed the excursion march is a very significant march that will demonstrate the firm faith and will of all youths and students throughout the country to advance along the revolutionary road of tens of millions of miles, following the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il and inheriting and carrying on the tradition of the loyalty of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters—who fought their way along the long path of bloody battles, holding the great leader in high esteem—and which will display the revolutionary mettle of the successors [kyesongjadul] of the revolutionary cause of chuche who have been educated and fostered by the great party.

The reporter and those who participated in the discussions continued: During the excursion march, they will vigorously undertake in various forms and methods the work of introducing the greatness of the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il and his immortal revolutionary achievements and of more firmly arming themselves with the glorious revolutionary tradition of our party.

They also indicated: On the days of the excursion march, members of the excursion march group should further temper themselves politically, ideologically, and physically; should cultivate their strong will, indomitable fighting spirit, and high organizational spirit and disciplinary character; and should highly display revolutionary comradely love.

They stressed: Holding aloft the slogan, "Let us become reliable young vanguards of the Workers' Party of Korea,"

all members of the march group should firmly prepare themselves to become genuine revolutionary fighters who resolutely safeguard and defend our party under any adversity and who brilliantly inherit and develop the revolutionary tradition of chuche generation after generation, holding aloft the slogan like the young communists and guerrillas in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle who were loyal to the great leader, sacrificing the prime of their youth and lives.

After the ceremony, the excursion march group began the march, carrying the flag with a portrait of the great leader and the flag of the party at the head of the group, and flying flags of the march group, of universities, the flag with the portrait of the great leader, and the flag of the party.

In the ranks of the march group, which was accelerating the march toward the revolutionary battle sites and the historic sites of revolution, such as Chonpong, Konchang, Mimyongsu, and Pochonbo, after departing from the secret camp on Mt. Paektu, such revolutionary songs as the guerrilla march song and the Red flag song reverberated and echoed in the sacred peaks of Mt. Paektu.

### Minister Attends Cinematic Exhibition Opening

*SK2408050890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0407 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—A cinematic and stage art poster exhibition opened at the Pyongyang International Cinema House on August 23.

Displayed there are more than 90 pieces of posters which were well received in the past period.

The multi-part feature film "Star of Korea" which depicts the immortal revolutionary exploits performed by the great leader President Kim Il-song during the anti- Japanese revolutionary struggle, the multi-part detective film "Unknown Heroes" which depicts the feats of intelligence officers of the Korean People's Army during the fatherland liberation war and other posters on display concentrically reflect the ideological contents of the artistic works.

They leave deep impressions on the people for the clear and concise delineation and national characteristics.

Present at the opening ceremony were Kim Chun-han, vice- minister of culture and art, officials concerned and working people in the city.

### Group Urges Adherence to Socialist Rural Theses

*SK2408101990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Pyongyang August 24 (KCNA)—Agricultural working people of the Wonhwa cooperative farm in Pyongwon County, South Pyongan Province, held a meeting on August 23 and called upon the agricultural working people throughout the country to turn out in the drive to carry out the tasks laid down in the socialist rural theses.

Some time ago, the great leader President Kim Il-song gave highly important teachings that the historical tasks set forth in the socialist rural theses should be carried out in a few years to come.

In "theses on the socialist rural question in our country", a historical work published on February 25, 1964, President Kim Il-song gave a scientific exposition of the ways of finally solving the questions of peasants and agriculture in socialist society, eliminating class differences between the working class and peasants and distinctions between the town and country and realising a classless society.

At the meeting, the revorter and speakers noted that the drive to completely implement the rural theses is a campaign to add brilliance to the greatness of the party and the leader and to the honor of chuche Korea and hasten the final victory of the revolutionary cause of chuche.

A resolution and an appeal to the agricultural working people across the country were adopted at the meeting.

The appeal points out that the cardinal task of the drive to carry out the great rural theses is to implement at an early date the four tasks of the rural technical revolution and the tasks to eliminate the differences between urban and rural population in living, giving definite precedence to the ideological revolution. It is an unshakable faith and firm will of our entire agricultural working people to successfully carry out these sacred tasks and thus make the 1990s a decade when the rural theses have been completely realised and a glorious decade when a new peak of socialist construction has been captured, says the appeal.

The appeal calls for thinking and acting only in accordance with the ideas and intention of the Workers' Party of Korea, pressing ahead with the rural construction our own way bearing Korean-nation-first spirit deep in mind and thus giving fuller scope to the genuine advantages and might of the socialist rural economic system of our country.

## South Korea

### Official Says U.S. Requests Supplies for Gulf

*SK2408044390 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 24 Aug 90 p 1*

[Report from AFP and YONHAP, Seoul]

[Text] On 23 August a high-ranking ROK Government official said that the United States has asked the ROK to provide gas masks and cargo ships to the U.S.-led multinational forces to assist them in settling the crisis in the Persian Gulf. He said that the ROK Government is now affirmatively reviewing the offer.

The high-ranking official disclosed that the ROK, which is still under a threat from North Korea, cannot send its military forces to assist the multinational forces deployed in the Persian Gulf. However, he said that the ROK Government is now affirmatively reviewing the U.S. request for "gas masks, cargo ships, and other related items."

### 'Non-Lethal' Aid Granted

*SK2408034190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0323 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea will provide non-lethal military supplies for multinational forces in the Middle East at the request of the United States, a senior Korean official said Friday.

Confirming reports that the United States has officially asked for military supplies, he said the government had decided to meet the request.

"The United States recently requested medicines, tents, combat boots, blankets and uniforms. We think it will be all right for us to send them, since they are not arms. They seem to be used by the Army of Saudi Arabia and the united forces of Arabic countries," the official said on condition he not be named.

Asked when and how much will be sent, he said, "The U.S. Administration did not make the request in such a detail. We will send appropriate amounts at an appropriate time, taking into consideration two important things—the national interest in a long-term view, and the protection of our people."

He said all 480 Koreans in Iraq but a few "essential" personnel will be evacuated "at the earliest possible date" and that a schedule for evacuation would be drawn up after Korean and Iraqi contractors agree to halt construction projects.

As for Iraq's closure of foreign embassies in Kuwait, he said Korea would take joint steps with friendly countries.

### Government To Seek 'Momentum' for Reunification

*SK2308122390 Seoul YONHAP in English 1208 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u has said that the South Korean Government will seek to secure a momentum for the reunification of the Korean peninsula in the coming four or five years and, in this context, push ahead with its move to normalize its relations with China and the Soviet Union to create a favorable international environment.

No said, in a special interview published in the Friday editions of the mass-circulation CHOSON ILBO newspaper, that the South Korean Government is ready to discuss any North Korean initiative if it is conducive to the improvement of inter-Korean relations.

"We are ready to discuss and implement any constructive device that may be proposed by North Korea," said the South Korean leader.

The president said the South would table at the forthcoming inter-Korean prime ministers talks a three-phase arms reduction plan under which the two sides first make effort to build mutual confidence in the political field, and then in the military field and finally reduce armed forces.

No said relations between Seoul and Moscow is expected to make concrete progress in the government-to-government talks slated to be held in Seoul next month. No also hoped that the forthcoming Beijing Asiad may become an occasion for South Korea and China to promote their relations a step upward.

Touching on domestic political issues, No said he was opposed to a constitutional amendment which is not wanted by the people. He virtually turned down opposition leader Kim Tae-chung's proposal for arranging a vice president's post inside the government by saying, "We do not have to take the trouble of rewriting the Constitution for the purpose of making up for partial problems."

He stressed that a constitutional amendment should be studied from a forward-looking and broad point of view based on a comprehensive consideration of such various factors as diversified social structure, renewed political prudence of the people and complexity of unification issues.

But he hinted at his assent to a shift of the nation's governing system to the parliamentary cabinet system by saying, "I think the parliamentary cabinet system would be conducive to the development of democracy whoever may rule the country after me."

Asked on his view of another political realignment proposed by a segment of the rightists, No ruled out its possibility, saying "it is hardly realizable now in view that we have done it not long ago."

### South Urges North To Sign IAEA Safeguards

*SK2408010890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea repeated its call for North Korea to sign the nuclear safeguards accord of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the fourth review conference of the Nuciear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in Geneva on Thursday.

Ambassador to Geneva Yi Sang-ok urged North Korea to sign the accord and show its "complete compliance" with the NPT, the Foreign Ministry said.

"My delegation once again calls upon North Korea to conclude the full-scope safeguards agreement with the IAEA without further delay to demonstrate its full and complete compliance with the terms of the treaty and thus remove a stumbling block standing in the way of confidence-building and reconciliation on the Korean peninsula," a ministry spokesman quoted Yi as saying.

North Korea has violated one of the fundamental obligations of the NPT by refusing to sign the safeguards accord for almost five years, undermining the international non-proliferation effort, Yi said.

Article 3 of the NPT requires signatories to join the safeguards accord within 18 months of joining the NPT.

North Korea joined the NPT in December 1985 but has yet to sign the accords. South Korea joined the NPT in April 1975 and signed the safeguards accord that October.

Yi was quoted as calling on advanced nuclear nations to "take steps to assure nuclear developing countries of every possible assistance and cooperation, including relaxation of regulatory measures and transfer of sensitive high technology and information, for the peaceful use of nuclear energy and stable long-term supply of nuclear fuels."

Delegates from the United States, Britain, Italy and Japan also expressed concern about North Korea's delay in signing the safeguards agreement on Tuesday and Wednesday, and called for early signing, the spokesman said.

## Shevardnadze Reportedly To Visit Seoul 3 Sep

*SK2308134090 Seoul Television Service in Korean 1200 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Japan's NHK broadcast today reported that Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze will visit our country on 3 September.

Reporter Yi Un-song reports on this from Tokyo.

[Begin Yi recording] Quoting a report by its correspondent from Moscow, Japan's NHK broadcast this evening reported that Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze will visit Seoul on 3 September. Noting that this has been confirmed by the Soviet Foreign Ministry, the NHK broadcast reported that Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze will head directly for Seoul after attending an Asian-Pacific conference in Vladivostok early next month.

The NHK broadcast said that Minister Shevardnadze was originally scheduled to visit Japan on 4 September prior to the visit of President Gorbachev to Japan slated for early next year. However, his plan to visit Seoul, which was not included in his itinerary, one day before his visit to Japan, is unusual. The NHK broadcast observed that this would be a return visit for the ROK-USSR talks for diplomatic relations held in Moscow some time ago.

The NHK broadcast predicted that the relations between the two countries, which are becoming close since the ROK-USSR summit talks in San Francisco in June, will rapidly progress. However, the broadcast declined to mention whether North Korea was notified in advance of Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit to the ROK. [end recording]

### Spokesman Dismisses Report

*SK2408005290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0042 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Foreign Ministry has dismissed as "groundless" a report that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will visit Seoul early next month.

"Our government has no knowledge whatsoever of the foreign report and the report is groundless," said Chong Ui-yong, spokesman for the ministry Friday.

Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) reported from Moscow on Thursday, quoting an unidentified senior Soviet diplomat, that Shevardnadze would visit Seoul on Sept. 3 on his way to Japan on Sept. 5-7.

## Adviser Cites Benefits of USSR Cooperation

*SK2408013290 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 Aug 90 p 1 (supplement)*

[By staff reporter Kang Song-chol]

[Text] A top economic adviser to President No Tae-u says he sees great potential for south Korea and the Soviet Union to foster mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

In an interview with The Korea Herald, Kim Chong-in, senior presidential secretary for economic affairs, said cooperation ties with the Soviet Union would bring about a major economic breakthrough for the nation.

"There exist no major problems," he said, when asked about the prospect of reaching agreement in the second round of government-to-government talks, slated for next month in Seoul.

As head of a 20-member official Korean delegation, Kim conducted negotiations with Soviet officials in Moscow earlier this month on promoting economic cooperation and opening diplomatic ties.

The Soviet officials he met included Yuriy Maslyukov, first deputy premier and head of the state planning agency.

Kim reaffirmed that promotion of economic cooperation is inseparably related with the issue of normalizing diplomatic relations.

"The two questions cannot be viewed as separate ones," he stated. "Without the establishment of diplomatic ties, we cannot push for economic cooperation."

Cooperative ties with Moscow will likely help Seoul achieve another economic takeoff, he said, while stressing the Soviet Union's economic potential should not be underestimated.

Kim noted that the Soviet Union will offer a vast export market for south Korea, particularly in the field of consumer goods.

"We have poor natural resources and our internal market is not so great," he remarked. "We have no other choice but to expand our foreign markets."

However, he warned against pursuing economic cooperation only for short-term benefits. "Bilateral economic

cooperation should be pushed on the basis of a correct understanding of each country's economic potential."

"Businesses should make investments in the Soviet Union on a long- term basis," he said. "Those aspiring for immediate gains had better not invest in the Soviet Union."

He went on to say negotiations in Moscow early this month have helped both sides better understand each other's economic situation.

"I explained to them that we still have a long way to go before joining the top-ranked industrial countries. I also told them we have a foreign debt of about $27 billion."

Kim said the government and businesses are now carefully studying a list of 22 economic cooperation projects desired by the Soviet Union.

"Some businesses appear to be keenly interested in some of the proposed projects," he said.

The presidential aide said he believes that the development of ties between Seoul and Moscow will help bring about favorable changes in inter-Korean relations.

"We should also think about relations with north Korea, in pushing for improved ties with the Soviet Union," he stated.

## USSR Suspends Modern Weapons to North Korea

*SK2408123290 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 24 Aug 90 p 1*

[Text] In accordance with the Soviet Union's policy change toward North Korea, it has stopped supplying and selling modern weapons to North Korea from this year. It has been learned that the supply of conventional weapons has been carried out until now in the form of assistance. However, the Soviet Union has decided to provide weapons to North Korea only when the weapons are bought with cash. North Korea was already notified of this policy early this year.

This change in Soviet policy toward North Korea was revealed on the morning of 23 August by Professor Pang Chan-yong (professor at San Francisco University), who quoted Soviet sources in his speech in a seminar on "The Soviet Union's Change and Security on the Korean Peninsula," hosted by the Institute of Korean Development (chairman: An Mu-hyok).

Professor Pang also revealed that from 1 January of this year, the Soviet Union started to sell crude oil to North Korea at the full international market price. The oil was formerly supplied to North Korea at one third the price set by the international market. He also revealed that because of this measure, North Korea, which lacks foreign exchange, can only operate 50 percent of all of its factories due to the lack of crude oil and electricity.

Professor Pang said that when he met with some Soviet officials in the Soviet Union, those officials had made candid remarks, saying "If reunification on the Korean Peninsula is achieved under the initiative of South Korea as West Germany played the role of initiator in reunifying East and West Germany, this would not interfere at all with the Soviet Union's national interests."

Dr. Yuriy Chakik [name as published], secretary general of the Far East Institute of the Soviet Union, who participated in this seminar, explained the internal changes taking place in the Soviet Union by saying, "The Soviet Union has abolished the nationalization of land which is the core ideology of communism and has allowed people at home and abroad to own land. Also, revisions have been made on the state monopolizing businesses and the one-party dictatorship."

## European Banks Sue to Freeze North's Assets

*SK2408065090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0639 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—A South Korean newspaper reported Friday that a French court has frozen North Korean assets in France at the request of French creditors who are owed hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars.

The vernacular daily CHUNG-ANG DAILY NEWS, quoting an unidentified Korean Government source, said the suit was filed by a bank.

It said four other Western banks, including Britian's Morgan Grenfell, have filed or are moving to file similar suits to seize North Korean assets across Europe.

North Korea's debt began to snowball after it launched its first six-year development plan in 1971, and as a result it suffered a foreign debt trauma in late 1970s. The second foreign debt trauma hit the closed regime in 1987, but creditors abstained from such measures as freezing North Korean assets.

According to the National Unification Board, North Korea had a foreign debt of 5.2 billion dollars as of 1988, with 2.73 billion dollars from Western countries and 2.47 billion dollars from the communist bloc.

## Thai Army Commander in Chief Arrives for Visit

*SK2408061390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0541 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Taejon, South Korea, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—Gen. Suchinda Khrapraum, commander-in-chief of the Royal Thai Army, arrived here as a guest of Army Chief of Staff Gen. Yi Chin-sam on Friday to discuss security in Northeast Asia and bilateral cooperation, an Army spokesman said.

The general will visit army headquarters near Taejon, 140 kilometers south of Seoul, on Saturday to be decorated.

## Burma

### Commander Denies Fuel Oil Shortage in Capital

*BK2408093390 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Excerpts] Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council, held a meeting in the conference room on the first floor of the Yangon City Hall at 1400 today and explained in detail the situation regarding the change in the distribution system of fuel oil and about rumors being spread by unscrupulous people in this regard. [passage omitted]

Addressing the meeting, Major General Myo Nyunt said: As you have already heard, some people have been spreading rumors about the change in the distribution system of fuel oil. If these rumors are studied carefully, it can be seen that unwanted evil elements are behind them. Before I say what their activities are, I wish to explain the availability and the usage of fuel oil in Yangon Division so that those present at the meeting will clearly understand the situation.

Presently, there are a total of 29,941 private cars, 7,112 taxis, 8,103 motorcycles within the Yangon city limits. The numbers do not include cars belonging to the Road Transport Board, long-distance buses, and cars under the supervision of the Yangon City Transport Supervisory Committee. The fuel oil allocated monthly to Yangon Division for distribution to private and cooperatives sectors is 1.5 million gallons of gasoline. Under the new distribution system, the monthly allocation to the division is 1.49 million gallons of gasoline. Previously, 330,000 gallons of diesel oil were available for Yangon and this has been increased to 450,000 gallons under the present system. The alloted amount of other fuels such as liquefied methanol and crude oil, also remain the same.

On the basis of these figures, only 10,000 gallons of gasoline have been placed under control while diesel oil distribution has increased for heavy load vehicles so as to facilitate the transportation sector. What I am trying to say is that the rumors alleging that we have cut back on fuel oil because of an oil shortage and because of the Middle East crisis are false. This is evident from the amount of fuel oils distributed presently. To put it quite frankly, we have no difficulty regarding fuel oil. Our country can produce and utilize our own resources, and therefore the rumors being spread by them about the link to the Middle East crisis is totally wrong.

The figure of 10,000 gallons of gasoline put under control is negligible compared to the actual number of vehicles in use. The cut was not made due to a fuel shortage as claimed by some unscrupulous people; it was made to prevent the misuse of fuel issued by the government. This is to ensure smooth and safe transport and communications and to control those who are misusing fuel for their own interests. [passage omitted]

Speaking on claims that the price of commodities are high due to the high price of fuel, the commander said since we have presumed responsibility, efforts have been made on all fronts to bring down price of goods. He explained that fuel has been distributed to the trucks transporting fish, meat, and commodities from provinces and fish has been distributed to the public at low prices by distributing fuel to private and cooperative fishery sectors. He said such assistance would continue to be given to the fishery sector. However, he added, if results fall short of expectation, further assistance would not be given. [passage omitted] He said the rising price of commodities has nothing to do with fuel. Rather, greedy and profit-seeking merchants who have taken advantage of the situation are responsible. He noted that previously merchants attributed the high price of commodities to the high price of rice, and they have even guaranteed that once the price of rice falls, the price of commodities would also fall. He said the price of rice has fallen from 20 to 25 kyat per pyi [1/16 of a bushel] to below 10 kyat today. However, the prices of other foodstuffs and consumer products have risen instead of coming down. He said the prices of commodities are rising because of opportunistic and greedy merchants. [passage omitted]

### Singapore Delegation Fetes Ministers in Rangoon

*BK2208142990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 22 Aug 90*

[Text] A Singapore delegation headed by Mr. S. Chandra Das, member of the Singapore Parliament and chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Defense and Foreign Affairs, which is visiting Myanmar [Burma] to discuss bilateral trade promotion matters, gave a return banquet at the Ruby Room of the Inya Lake Hotel this evening.

Attending the banquet were Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, minister of mines and energy; Lieutenant General Tin Tun, minister of transport and communications and labor and social welfare; Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister of livestock breeding and fisheries and agriculture and forests; Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and trade; responsible officials of departments concerned; and invited guests.

### Departs 23 Aug

*BK2308153590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Mr. S. Chandra Das, member of the Singapore Parliament and chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Defense and Foreign Affairs, and members of his trade delegation left Yangon [Rangoon] by air this afternoon. The delegation was seen off at Yangon airport by Brigadier General Abel, minister of trade and planning and finance; U Maung Kyi, director general of the Directorate of Trade and responsible [Directorate of Trade] officials; U Ba Thwin, director

general of the Foreign Ministry's International Organizations and Economic Department; Mr. Lam Peck Heng, Singaporean charge d'affaires; and responsible officials.

### PRC Group Arrives To Study Drug Control

*BK2208142590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 22 Aug 90*

[Text] A six-member Chinese delegation, led by Mr.Yuan Yongyuan of the Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China, flew into Yangon [Rangoon] at noon today to study drug abuse control programs in Myanmar [Burma]. The delegation was welcomed at Yangon airport by U Wai Soe Tun, joint secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control and director of Narcotics Division of the People's Police Force, and U Maung Maung Than, director of Criminal Division of the People's Police Force.

At 1400 today, the PRC delegation headed by Mr. Yuan Yongyuan paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister for home and religious affairs and chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control. Also present on the occasion were U San Thein, deputy director general of the People's Police Force, and Lieutenant General Than Nyunt of the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs.

## Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

## Malaysia

### Mahathir Discusses Sending Troops to Mideast

*BK2408063690 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed says Malaysia will send troops to Saudi Arabia only if the holy city of Mecca and Medina are endangered. Otherwise, the government will dispatch Malaysian troops to that country, now embroiled in the latest gulf crisis, only upon request and approval by the United Nations. He said this when opening the national-level Rela or volunteer service month in Jitra, Kedah.

The prime minister said Malaysia would only respond to the UN request for military assistance as it had done to help the UN peacekeeping in Congo and observation of the Iran-Iraq peace plan. The prime minister said although the United Nations is aware of the Saudi predicament, the world body cannot act [words indistinct].

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said Saudi Arabia is not in such a predicament because of its large and strong military. In some rich countries, the people are not willing to die for the nation and foreign mercenaries had to be engaged [words indistinct]. In this context, the prime minister urged Malaysians to be prepared to face challenges to preserve the nation's peace and prosperity.

### Kuwaiti Oil Minister Arrives With Message

*BK2408092890 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Kuwaiti Oil Minister Rashid Salim al-Amiri has arrived in Kuala Lumpur to meet his majesty the king, Sultan Azlan Shah, and Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir to convey a special message from the Emir of Kuwait. He is the most senior Kuwaiti official to have visited Southeast Asia since 2 August following Iraq's invasion of the oil-rich Gulf nation.

Mr. Salim al-Amiri arrived from Dhaka, Bangladesh. He told newsmen that he had been delegated by the Emir of Kuwait to express the thanks and appreciation of the Emirian government and the people of Kuwait to the king and prime minister of Malaysia and the government and people of Malaysia for their great help and support for their just cause.

Mr. Salim al-Amiri expressed the hope that the Iraqi leadership will come to reason and respond favorably to the international request for Iraq to withdraw its troops immediately from Kuwait. He said it is very unfortunate that the invasion came at a time when the entire world is moving towards peace and the reconciliation between the superpowers.

## Singapore

### Coverage of Response to Gulf Situation Continues

### Ministry Announces Trade Ban

*BK2408040690 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0350 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Singapore, Aug 24 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Singapore has banned trade with Iraq and Kuwait effective Friday, the Foreign Affairs Ministry said in a statement. The republic has prohibited the importation of all goods originating from Iraq and Kuwait and the exportation of goods to the two countries. The ministry said the action was taken in compliance with the United Nations' Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 661 which provides for comprehensive sanctions on Iraq.

It said all banks and financial institutions in Singapore were also prohibited from transferring any assets belonging to the Kuwaiti and Iraqi Governments, and their nationals, unless prior approval was obtained from the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). "Transactions by the legitimate owners of Kuwaiti assets which meet certain conditions would be allowed," it said.

The UNSC, in accordance with Resolution 661, has called upon all states to assist the legitimate government of Kuwait and to take appropriate measures to protect their assets.

## Trade Board Cancels Missions

*BK2308125490 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Aug 90 p 40*

[By Sivam Subramaniam]

[Excerpt] With tension mounting in the Gulf, the Trade Development Board [TDB] has cancelled two earlier-scheduled trade missions to the Middle East, as well as Singapore's participation at two trade fairs there. The first is a trade promotion mission to Iran next month, and the second is a region-wide trade mission to the Gulf covering Jeddah and Riyadh in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Oman later this year.

The TDB has also decided to cancel the Republic's participation at two trade fairs in the Middle East—the Teheran International Fair next month and the Far East Exposition in Jeddah scheduled for November.

Sources said the TDB's decision to cancel the trade missions was taken earlier this month.

But they stressed that it was not directly related to the United Nations Security Council's move to enforce a trade embargo against Iraq and Kuwait, following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on Aug 2. Singapore had indicated that it would support the UN move.

The sources said that the mechanism to implement the trade embargo is still being worked out here by officials from key ministries, including Finance, Foreign Affairs and Trade and Industry. But for the time being, all Singapore firms with business dealings with Iraq and Kuwait have been told to observe the UN sanctions, they added.

TDB is also understood to be monitoring the situation to help local traders facing problems exporting to other Arab countries, apart from Iraq and Kuwait. Sources said that the number of companies affected was "very small".

Earlier this month, the TDB called a meeting involving representatives from some 30 companies which have business ties with Iraq and Kuwait to get feedback on how they are likely to be affected by the Gulf situation and by the trade embargo.

According to latest figures, Singapore's domestic exports to the Middle East in May amounted to $80 million, with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates absorbing more than two-thirds of the made-in-Singapore products. This represents only about 1.6 per cent of the Republic's total exports of $5 billion that month. [passage omitted]

## Airline Suspends Flights to Dhahran

*BK2308144490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1415 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Singapore, Aug 23 (AFP)—Singapore Airlines (SIA) Thursday announced a suspension of its flights to Dhahran in Saudi Arabia from Sunday in light of the latest situation in the Gulf.

A one-paragraph statement from SIA said because of the uncertain situation in the northern Gulf region, SIA will suspend its services to Dhahran from next week. "The last flight from Singapore to Dhahran will be on Sunday, 26 August," the statement said. SIA currently operates twice weekly to Dhahran.

## Muslims Condemn 'Invasion'

*BK2308115090 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Aug 90 p 8*

[By Salim Osman]

[Text] Several Malay/Muslim groups in Singapore have condemned the Iraqi Invasion of Kuwait and demanded an immediate stop to the aggression against the tiny Gulf state in a joint letter to President Saddam Husayn. They said that the invasion was against Islam and that Iraq should allow the government and the people of Kuwait to enjoy peace and freedom in their own country. They also expressed concern over the future of the holy cities of Mecca and Medina if Saudi Arabia came under attack in the widening Middle East crisis.

The letter was sent to Mr Saddam by Jamiyah, the Muslim Missionary Society, through the Iraqi Embassy in Kuala Lumpur on Monday [20 August]. Jamiyah president Abu Bakar Maidin told THE STRAITS TIMES yesterday that the letter was sent to register the community's protest against the invasion and the danger that it posed to the holy cities in Saudi Arabia. The letter was signed by leaders of 11 organisations, representing a wide cross-section of the Muslim community.

Besides Jamiyah, the other signatories are Muhammadiyah; Pertapis (the Islamic Theological Association); Pasir Panjang Indian Muslim Association, the Singapore Tenkasi Muslim Welfare Society; Madrasah Wak Tanjong Al Islamiah; Pakistan League; Madrasah Aljunied Al Islamiah; Al Wehdah Al Arabiah; the Baaiwi Mosque and the Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce.

The letter said: "We, the Muslims of Singapore, are truly shocked, confused, and deeply saddened by the invasion of a strong and more powerful Muslim country of Iraq on another Muslim country of Kuwait."

Referring to the disputes between Iraq and Kuwait before the invasion, it said that they could have been amicably resolved through discussion under the auspices of the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

The letter also expressed concern over the impact that the widening conflict involving Saudi Arabia would have

on Muslims performing pilgrimage in the holy cities there. It said that the Grand Mosque in Mecca and the Prophet's mosque in Medina should not be brought into any conflict as Muslim pilgrims the world over go to these cities every year.

### Joint Air Exercise Held With U.S. Air Force

*BK2308153490 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 23 Aug*

[Text] The United States Air Force and the Republic of Singapore Air Force are conducting a joint air exercise at Paya Lebar Airport. Code-named [words indistinct] is the second in the series of exercises between the air forces of the two countries. Mindef [Ministry Of Defense] said the joint maneuvers provide valuable experience to the pilots in the [words indistinct]. The two-week-long exercise ends tomorrow.

## Cambodia

### Ceremony Marks Phnom Penh Leadership Changes

*BK2308153990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] A ceremony to mark the swapping of the posts between the comrade secretary of the party committee and the comrade chairman of the Phnom Penh Municipal People's Committee was held on the afternoon of 22 August at the office of the Phnom Penh Municipal People's Committee under the chairmanship of Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of State.

On that occasion, Comrade Sar Kheng, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chief de cabinet of the party Central Committee, and chairman of the Central Organization Commission, read the party Central Committee Political Bureau's resolution on the adjustment and transfer of Comrade Nguon Nhel from the post of secretary of the Phnom Penh Municipal Party Committee to the post of agriculture minister; Comrade Thong Khon, chairman of the municipal people's committee, to the post of deputy minister of Information and culture; Comrade Sim Ka, vice chairman of the party Central Committee's Control Commission, to the post of secretary of the Phnom Penh Municipal Party Committee; and Comrade Hok Langdi, chairman of the Svay Rieng Provincial People's Committee, to the post of chairman of the Phnom Penh Municipal People's Committee.

Comrade Nguon Nhel also read a report summing up the achievements scored by Phnom Penh city and the remaining targets on some fields of work for further implementation by the new officials.

Speaking on that occasion, Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin stressed that pursuant to the requirements of the current new tasks of the State of Cambodia, this is aimed at making Phnom Penh capital even more stable and (?prosperous). He also exhorted all core cadres and the comrades who have been transferred to the new posts to pay attention to grasping the essential matters in all fields and a number of key points set forth by the party and state so that Phnom Penh capital will advance even more effectively.

### Men Sam-an Visits Kratie, Discusses Session

*BK2308124990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Aug 90*

[Text] On 16 August, female Comrade Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions, paid a visit to Kratie Province to disseminate the essence of the fifth party Central Committee's 11th session.

Attending the discourse were Comrade Thoek Kroeunvuttha, secretary of the Kratie provincial party committee; and the comrade members of the provincial party and people's committees; and chiefs and deputy chiefs of the provincial and district offices and units.

Mrs. Men Sam-an introduced various documents of the fifth party Central Committee's 11th session, stressed the victories won by the Cambodian motherland in the first half of 1990, and referred to maneuvers of the enemies launched since the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia. She also pointed out clearly the targets of the future tasks set forth by the party Central Committee and called on the core cadres throughout the province to search, study, and set measures suitable to the situation in their respective localities in contribution to the constant advance of our Cambodian motherland.

Also during this visit, Mrs. Men Sam-an went to Sambo District where she listened to a report given by the comrade secretary of the district party committee on the success made in the military and security fields by the district's Armed Forces in cooperation with the people in killing 17 Pol Pot soldiers. Mrs. Men Sam-an praised this achievement, which was attributable to the effective leadership of the district party and people's committees and the people's contribution. She also exhorted all cadres, combatants, and people in the district to further enhance their vigilance. She also visited and distributed gifts, such as blankets, scarves, and sarongs, to the families of those who volunteered to serve in the army.

### Coalition's 'Schemes' in Beijing Criticized

*BK2408055590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Station commentary: "Is There Anything New in the Meeting of the Three Cambodian Groups in Beijing?"]

[Text] The three leaders of the other Cambodian side met in Beijing yesterday, 22 August. As is known to all, this urgent meeting was held at the request of Khieu

Samphan and aimed at strengthening the so-called Cambodian National Coalition Government in the face of policy changes by the United States and many other countries across the world which have successively announced their decision to stop recognizing the UN seat of this exiled government.

The Cambodian people are not in the least surprised by this meeting of the three leaders in Beijing. This is because every year since their matchmaking in 1982, these three persons have always met at least once a year in Beijing in order to seek new schemes for opposing the Cambodian people's rebirth.

Is there anything new in this meeting of the three Cambodian groups? In the seven-point joint statement of the meeting that the three leaders signed, we do not see anything new. The main part of this statement dealt with these groups' gratitude to a small number of countries that have continued to provide aid, oxygen, and saline solution to enable this government without land and population to survive for the past more than eight years.

In addition, this statement pretended to praise Samdech Sihanouk as the sole statesman who can rally all Cambodian parties, and voiced support for Sihanouk to become president of the supreme national council [SNC].

From the third point of this statement, it looks as if Samdech Sihanouk's luck is rising, but reality shows that Samdech Sihanouk is only a hostage of the Pol Pot-Khmer Rouge clique and a most sincere spokesman of this criminal clique.

Everyone still remembers well that upon arrival in his Sereipheap village in February, Samdech Sihanouk complained that China—which is the military sponsor of the coalition government—would not allow him and Mr. Son Sann to disassociate themselves from the Khmer Rouge. He also hinted that he was just a powerless leader who could not resist anything.

Further clear proof of Sihanouk's haughty attitude is his refusal to recognize and to abide by the Tokyo joint communique which he himself signed with Comrade Chairman Hun Sen.

Moreover, the fact that the three Cambodian groups have tried to push for Samdech Sihanouk to become the president of the SNC and lead Cambodia in the future constitutes a gross violation of the principles of democracy and an encroachment on the Cambodian people's right to self-determination.

Everyone knows that the Tokyo joint communique states that the first meeting of the SNC must be held under the chairmanship of a member elected by and among the SNC members. But recently, Samdech Sihanouk announced that he would not join the SNC. Therefore, he does not have the right to be president of this council. The future leader of Cambodia is to be decided by the Cambodian people through a free, fair, and equal election in Cambodia under thorough international supervision. No one has the right to make this decision on behalf of the Cambodian people. The most perfidious point is that the three leaders of the other Cambodian side have demanded that power in Cambodia be divided into four equal parts. This is a point which runs counter to the Tokyo joint communique and to reality in Cambodia and is absolutely unacceptable to the Cambodian people. This is because the fact that the State of Cambodia, which rules the absolute majority portions of the national population, territory, and resources, has allowed the Pol Pot clique to join in the SNC as a component part of the Cambodian National Government is already a big concession.

This is why we can see that there is nothing new in this meeting of the three Cambodian leaders. It was just an attempt to encourage the Pol Pot-Khmer Rouge clique to continue kindling the flames of civil war in Cambodia even more so as to enable them to seize power through the force of arms.

## Jul Military Activities in Battambang Reported

*BK2408072090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Aug 90*

[Text] In July, the Armed Forces of the 4th Division stationed in Battambang Province, in cooperation with the Armed Forces of Ratanamondol District, launched search and destroy operations against the enemy, killing 15 enemy soldiers and seizing 15 weapons and a large amount of war materiel.

Our cadres and combatants are paying attention to expanding the will to fight the enemy and vying with one another to increase victories in order to firmly defend their positions.

## Radio Sums Up Combat Activities in Past Week

*BK2408070090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[From the "Weekly Roundup of Salient Events" feature]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In the past week, our Armed Forces launched 11 successful operations against the enemies during which we put out of action 102 enemy soldiers, including 54 killed, four captured, and 45 forced to surrender [figures as heard]. We seized 41 assorted weapons, 151 rounds of assorted ammunition, and some war materiel, and we destroyed four enemy hideouts.

## Leaders Greet Indian Officials on National Day

### Hun Sen Sends Greetings

*BK2308074590 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0421 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 23—Prime Minister Hun Sen has extended warm greetings to Indian Prime Minister V.P. Singh on the 43rd anniversary of the Independence Day of India (Aug. 15).

Prime Minister Hun Sen said in his message: "This historical day is of great significance not only for the friendly Indian people, but also for peace, freedom, independence and justice-loving people in the world in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and reactionary expansionism. In the light of the just principles of Mahatma Gandhi, an eminent son of the Indian people, the Republic of India has over the past 43 years made meaningful progress in their national construction and defence.

"I would like to express my gratitude to Your Excellency and the Government of India for the constant support and assistance to the Cambodian people in the quest of a political solution and in their efforts for national rehabilitation after the dark years of the genocidal Pol Pot clique's rule".

Prime Minister Hun Sen wished his Indian counterpart the best of health, and the Indian Government and people new successes.

On the same occasion, Hun Sen in the name of foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, also greeted Inder Kumar Gujral, Indian external affairs minister.

### Tie Banh Sends Message

*BK2408070790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Comrade General Tie Banh, defense minister of the State of Cambodia, has sent a greetings message to His Excellency Vishwanath Pratap Singh, prime minister and defense minister of the Republic of India on the 43d independence day anniversary of the Republic of India. The message said:

Esteemed and beloved excellency: On the occasion of the Republic of India's 43d independence day anniversary, on behalf of the cadres and combatants of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces and in my own name, I would like to extend warmest and most sincere greetings to you on this glorious day.

May the relations of friendship, solidarity, and mutual understanding between our two armies further strengthen and develop fruitfully.

May your excellency enjoy good health and great success in carrying out your noble mission. Through your excellency, we wish all leaders, commanders, officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers good health and success in all tasks to build and defend their beautiful land.

With highest regards.

## Son Sann Returns to Bangkok From Beijing

*BK2408071090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] His Excellency Son Sann, prime minister of the Cambodian national government and president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], returned to Bangkok from Beijing Thursday night. His Excellency Son Sann led a KPNLF delegation to the tripartite Cambodian meeting in Beijing, China.

On Wednesday, at the end of the meeting, the three parties of the Cambodian resistance movement issued a joint statement welcoming ASEAN's view of calling on the cochairmen of the Paris international conference to convene a meeting of the four Cambodian parties in Jakarta, Indonesia to discuss and set up the supreme national council, the sole legitimate source of power for Cambodia during the interim period. This joint statement expressed full support for the efforts of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council on the Cambodian problem, saying that the documents successively adopted by the five countries have created a framework for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem.

## 3 SRV Commanders Said Killed in Ambush 17 Aug

*BK2408024590 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] On the morning of 17 August, fraternal Cambodian soldiers who have been forced to serve the Vietnamese aggressors and the Vietnamese-lackey traitorous Hun Sen-Heng Samrin ringleaders along Route 5 in Krakor District of Pursat Province, joined hands with our national resistance forces in an ambush on five vehicles—a jeep and four escort cars—carrying the Vietnamese commanders and Vietnamese-puppet traitorous Hun Sen-Heng Samrin ringleaders from Pursat Province to Phnom Penh. The five vehicles were ambushed by our fraternal Cambodian soldiers and national resistance forces and ran over our landmines when they reached an area between O Sandan and Ach Kok. All of the vehicles were set ablaze or damaged.

In the ambush, our fraternal Cambodian soldiers and national resistance forces killed a commander of the puppet division of Kandal Province, a Vietnamese provincial governor attached to Kandal Province, a chief of staff of the Kandal Provincial unit; and wounded five others.

At the same time, our fraternal Cambodian soldiers and national resistance forces destroyed a 15-meter bridge at an area between Ach Kok and O Sandan and totally liberated these two villages.

Following this killing of the Vietnamese commanders and their puppets—the traitorous Hun Sen-Heng Samrin ringleaders by our national resistance forces, our people in Krakor District and other areas throughout Pursat Province were very happy. They wanted all Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets—traitorous Hun Sen-Heng Samrin ringleaders—to be killed quickly so that they would not be able to recruit our people's sons to fight and die on their behalf any longer. Some other people asked the national resistance forces to join with our fraternal Cambodian soldiers and our people in attacking the Vietnamese enemies even more vigorously so as to liberate their villages and districts and quickly free our people from the puppet Hun Sen-Heng Samrin regime which is serving as Vietnamese lackey in destroying our nation and massacring our people.

### 300 Hidden SRV Troops Reported in Preah Vihear

*BK2408070590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] There are reports that hundreds of Vietnamese troops are setting up positions in the jungle in Rovieng District, Preah Vihear Province. Reports from the General Staff of the National Army of Independent Cambodia say that Vietnam has dispatched 300 Vietnamese soldiers to set up positions and hide themselves in the Tonle Mrech jungle in Rovieng District, Preah Vihear Province. Earlier, there were reports that many Vietnamese soldiers had hidden themselves in forested and hilly areas in Cambodia. Various military observers have disclosed that Vietnamese troops hiding in Cambodia all disguise themselves in the uniforms of Heng Samrin troops.

## Laos

### 'Success' of Army's Thailand Visit Hailed

*BK2408041190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Station article: "New Step of Relations between Lao and Thai Armies"]

[Text] During its 15-19 August official friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand, the high-level Lao military delegation led by General Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of General Staff of the Lao People's Army [LPA], met and exchanged views with a delegation of the Thai Armed Forces Supreme Command on relations between the armies of the two countries.

Following the meeting, a joint memorandum was signed. In the joint memorandum, the two sides agreed that relations between the two countries have been progressively developed. On this basis, the two sides have agreed to propose to their respective governments the further promotion and expansion of relations and cooperation in the economic, trade, investment, communications, public health, educational, cultural, and tourism fields.

Both sides have agreed that it is appropriate to hold consultations on their border problem so as to resolve the issue at an early date, in particular the problem affecting the border areas in Laos' Boten District and Thailand's Chat Trakan District. Both sides have agreed to cooperate in preventing and suppressing crime along their common border, including the prevention and suppression of terrorist movements and the movement of armed exiled Lao rebels. Regarding this, consultations will be held to set details and appropriate conditions for implementation in accordance with the laws and regulations of each country.

With regard to the problem of Lao refugees in Thailand, the two sides agreed that they will propose to their respective governments to contact the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees to urgently seek means to settle the issue by a certain time. In addition, the two sides agreed that at present, the armies of the two countries maintain good relations, and that on this basis, it is appropriate for them to exchange military attaches in the near future.

At the same time, Gen. Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the LPA General Staff and head of the high-level Lao military delegation, invited a high-level military delegation of the Kingdom of Thailand to make an official visit the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. The Thai side accepted the invitation with pleasure.

All these achievements are a glorious success of the visit to the Kingdom of Thailand by our high-level Lao military delegation. Once these agreements are put into practice, they will contribute to improving the time-honored fraternal relations between the two countries.

During the friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand by the high-level Lao military delegation, in addition to the warm welcome given to the delegation by General Sunthon Khongsomphong, Armed Forces supreme commander, and General Suchinda Khraprayun, army commander of the Kingdom of Thailand, and other military officers and fraternal Thai people, what showed the promising development in the fraternal Lao-Thai relations was the delegation's being granted an audience with Her Royal Highness Maha Chakkri Sirinthon and the courtesy calls on General Chatchai Chunhawan, prime minister; Banhan Sinlapa-acha, minister of interior; and Major General Chamlong Simuang, governor of the Bangkok metropolis; along with many Thai politicians, such as General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, former deputy prime minister and minister of national defense, and General Kriangsak Chamanan, former prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, who have all along contributed to enhancing the Lao-Thai friendship.

To further improve and strengthen the relations between the two armies with a view to turning the common

border into a border of genuine friendship and peace, our high-level military delegation left Bangkok by a special Thai army aircraft for Chiang Mai Province to visit officers and men as well as the people in the 3d military region, and then proceeded to Udon Thani Province to visit officers and men as well as the people in the 2d military region. The delegation also viewed some production establishments of the Thai army and people in these two provinces.

Wherever the high-level military delegation of the LPDR went, it was heartily welcomed by the hosts in a spirit of the time-honored fraternal friendship. In the meetings during visits to those places, both sides noted the necessity to promote and expand relations between the two countries, in particular the cooperation in maintaining tranquillity in the areas bordering the two countries in order to turn the border into a border of friendship and peace in accordance with the long-standing aspirations of the Lao and Thai peoples. Noteworthy is the cooperation in suppressing the armed exiled Lao rebels who have settled in Thai territory and frequently cross the border into Laos to carry out activities sabotaging peace and tranquillity of the Lao people. The cooperation is aimed at obstructing all acts sabotaging Lao-Thai relations and creating favorable conditions for the continual building and development of the economy, society, and culture of the two peoples of Laos and Thailand.

Thai Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan expressed satisfaction over the visit to Thailand by the high-level Lao military delegation. He also expressed pleasure over the construction of the bridge across the Mekong River linking Vientiane and Nong Khai Province, the construction of which will begin soon. He also expressed pleasure over the plan to build two more bridges across the Mekong River—one linking Nakhon Phanom and Khammouane Provinces and the other linking Muk Dahan and Savannakhet Provinces. On this occasion, General Sisavat Keobounphan also invited Major General Chamlong Simuang and Banhan Sinlapa-acha to pay official friendship visits to the LPDR at a convenient time. Both Major General Chamlong Simuang and Banhan Sinlapa-acha accepted the invitations.

The success of the visit to the Kingdom of Thailand by the high-level Lao military delegation has been successful in improving the fine relations between the two countries as a contribution to strengthening cooperation in many fields in the new stage. The Lao people hail this glorious success of the visit and wish for durable fraternal relations between Laos and Thailand.

### Sisavat Keobounphan Meets New Japanese Envoy

*BK2408104090 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Vientiane, August 24 (KPL)—Sisavat Keobounphan, mayor of Vientiane, on August 22, received the new ambassador of Japan to Laos, Shigemi Ando. The discussion centered on the expansion of the Lao-Japanese relations and cooperation. The mayor wished the newly appointed ambassador success in his mission.

### Official on Vientiane Development in 15 Years

*BK2408103890 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Vientiane, August 24 (KPL)—Dr. Siho Bannavong, vice mayor of Vientiane Prefecture, on August 23, the day of the 15th anniversary of taking over administrative power in Vientiane, made some remarks to local mass media on socioeconomic development through the period in the prefecture.

According to him, wet rice areas have increased from only 27,200 ha [hectare] with average rice yield of 1.5 tonnes per ha in 1976 to 40,000 ha with an average rice yield of 3 tonnes per ha in 1990. Whereas, he said, the area for second rice crop did not exist yet in 1976, but now it reached more than 7,000 ha with a rice yield of 3-4 tonnes per ha, especially during the past four years. Thus these could meet at a certain level the demand for rice and other food consumption in the prefecture.

Trade and services activities including import-export and hotelery have been considerably developed. So has been the education of different levels: Now there are 42 kindergartens with over 2,000 children, 344 primary shools with over 75,000 students, 68 lower secondary schools with over 20,000 students, 20 upper secondary schools with over 11,000 students, said the vice mayor.

On public health care, he said, its facilities together with medical personnel at all levels have been expanded to alm[illegible] every rural and production area. Before 1976, these did not exist in such areas.

In general, local people have well practised sanitary.

In social sphere, the vice mayor meant, people of all strata have enjoyed an equal opportunity in leading their life and work according to one's own capacity.

In addition, Dr. Siho Bannavong said, the fine national tradition and religion have been well observed among the local community.

## Philippines

### Official Confirms Aquino Assassination Attempt

*HK2408061190 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 24 Aug 90 p 1*

[By DIYARYO correspondent M. Novela]

[Text] A high-ranking Malacanang official yesterday confirmed an attempt to assassinate President Aquino in the past few days, at the same time as the recent spate of bombings on buildings in the metropolis and the rumours of a new coup attempt.

According to Mariano Adalem, presidential adviser for military affairs, the enemies of the government are always planning against the life of the president. Although Adalem did not announce the threat against the life of Mrs. Aquino, he said that many prominent people were alarmed and were asking questions regarding the government's preparations.

According to Adalem, "It somehow appears that the government has not been doing anything right." At the same time, he stated that "the government should not just shrug off the rebels' capability to create trouble in the country."

"Although the military has always said that the rebel soldiers have no capability to overthrow the government, we should also take some precautions in order to have peace in the country," Adalem said. He also said that even if the rebel soldiers do not succeed in their objective to launch a bloody coup, they are still a threat because they can affect the country's economy. On the other hand, Adalem belittled the rebel soldiers' capability, saying that if they are really capable of doing something more serious than just bombing buildings, they should have done that long time ago.

### Aquino Dismisses Rumors of Coup, Martial Law

*HK2408121190 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] The government today dismissed rumors of a martial law declaration and a coup d'etat. The statement was issued due to the intensified campaign by rebel soldiers, which included bombings.

In a written reply, President Aquino said that based on her knowledge, no group is capable of launching another coup d'etat. She stressed, however, that it is necessary to undertake every precaution for the safety and stability of the democratic institutions.

## Further Reportage on Government-Rebel Conflict

### Seven Killed in Ambush

*HK2408044390 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Seven Philippine Army soldiers were killed and four others seriously wounded after they were ambushed by communist rebels while on patrol in Barangay Kalile, Kapatagan, Lanao del Norte. Reports from Recom 12 [regional command] reaching the office of PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief Major General Cesar Nazareno stated that the soldiers from the Philippine Army's 33th Infantry Battalion, led by Lieutenant Mesias, were conducting a patrol mission at around 0700 in the area when they were ambushed by some 100 armed communist rebels. Seven soldiers were killed instantly, while four others were seriously injured.

The reports also said that before fleeing, the communist rebels took with them two M-203, four M-26, one pair of binoculars, one magnetic compass, 44 short M-16 magazines, 10 long magazines, one ICOM radio and one handset for PRC-77 [as heard].

The slain soldiers were taken immediately to the Monsueto funeral home in Iligan City, while the wounded ones were taken to the Baroy provincial hospital. Pursuit operations were conducted by colleagues of the ambushed soldiers in the area to track down the rebels hiding in the mountains of Lanao del Norte.

### Ileto on 'Psywar' Tactics

*HK2108122590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 21 Aug 90*

[Report by Dick Sinchongco from Malacanang]

[Text] It is expected that rebel soldiers will continue to sow acts of terrorism as part of what is called psywar. This was the assessment made by National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto, in addition to his belittling the capability of fugitive ex-Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan's group to topple the government.

Ileto once more dismissed rumors that another coup attempt would be launched by the rebels of the RAM-SFP [Reform the Armed Forces- Soldiers of the Filipino People]. He further explained that the rebels only wished to create tension, because this was a part of psychological warfare. These last few days there had been a spate of bombings in Metro Manila, which included several government buildings. Honasan's group has claimed responsibility for the said bombings.

### Rebel Army Groups Criticized

*HK2408053190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 24 Aug 90 p 4*

[Editorial: "RAM Goes Against Desire for Peace"]

[Text] [passage omitted] The avowed aim of the RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement], the YOU [Young Officers Union] and their military and civilian allies is to save the Filipino people from the alleged mismanagement of the Aquino government. However, they have not shown any regard for the people whom they claim to be liberating. In fact, they have only served to alienate the public whose equanimity they have been disturbing since they first declared war on the new democratic government of President Aquino in July, 1986. Furthermore, they have not presented a coherent program of action, if and when they succeed in taking over government.

The RAM, the YOU, and their allies must stop playing games with our people's lives and future. It has been made quite clear by the Edsa revolution and countless surveys mounted by reputable groups over the past three years that our people are not in favor of violent change. The surveys have also revealed that although they think government is slow to react to their needs, our people are

not ready to stop using peaceful means such as dialogue and non-violent protest, to get what they want.

By going against this strong sentiment of our people and insisting on their violent agenda, the RAM, the YOU and their supporters are quickly making themselves obsolete as instruments of meaningful social change.

## Ramos Comments on Threats

*HK2308110190 Quezon City DWDD Defense Department Radio in Tagalog 0650 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[News conference by Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos with members of the defense press corps in progress at the Social Hall of the Department of National Defense at Camp Aguinaldo—live, in English; italicized portions in Tagalog]

[Text] [Ramos]...said losing a lot of people's support. Unfortunately, many of their threats and pronouncements are easily picked up because even just one person operating a telephone, just one telephone, but with a series of telephone numbers can easily fax his propaganda message and get publication of what he is saying the following day or maybe even before that. So, these kinds of tactics are the ones being used now but I think that instead of gaining their objective, they are losing the most important element of all and that is their credibility, which was very little to start with and some people's support which has actually been greatly reduced already since December 1989.

Instead of now getting voluntary support from where they used to get it, they now have to extort money and do other coercive undertakings so that they can continue to finance their nefarious activities.

[Reporter] You mentioned, could you say who are the targets of their extortion and what evidence you have on that?

[Ramos] Well, apparently, those that have money and who are scared because they are the ones that are most vulnerable.

[Reporter] Could you name institutions or individuals who have been targetted and how is extortion, I mean, do they threaten to bomb these places?

[Ramos] Well, I think there is no need to name names here because that will just be helping them. But the pattern is that they would send a letter asking for this or asking for that or threatening do this and then they (spread) that out. And then if it still does not come, well, a bomb here, and a bomb there, even if it is not in the neighborhood of their extortion target, usually makes the message much clearer and pretty soon there is some money that comes across. That is also the usual pattern of criminals.

[Moderator] Sir, next question from Chary.

[Chary] Sir, last Friday during the (energy) meeting did the military actually present a rebel hit list involving congressmen and senators?

[Ramos] I was there and the briefing by General de Villa did not have any list whatsoever.

[Reporter] There was no mention of any threat from the rebels? I mean assassinating congressmen?

[Ramos] The threats in general, the actual undertaking such as the bombings, as well as the threats. But no names mentioned.

[Reporter] No stress on assassination plots?

[Ramos] Assassination was mentioned as part of the prelude to something more serious because of the build-up of the tension, that's part of it. But as to any listing, there was none.

[Reporter] So, there were no captured documents, rebel documents, supposedly...

[Ramos] General de Villa gave a briefing which is based on many things—intelligence reports, including captured documents, but what was presented was a summary of all of these.

[Moderator] Okay, next question from Rene Santa Cruz.

[Santa Cruz] Good afternoon sir.

[Ramos] Good afternoon.

[Santa Cruz] Well, rumors yesterday spread like a fire that, from all sectors of the society that the proclamation of martial law is near, or the government rather will proclaim martial law. From your answer, do you think these series of uncontrolled bombings in the metropolis are justifiable grounds to proclaim martial law at this point in time?

[Ramos] No, they are not. They are not. I think if people panic, and I hope you do not help to spread rumors that lead to panic, we will just be playing into the hands of these terrorists. I was in session with the Cabinet for four hours yesterday in Cluster E and then later on, the Cabinet again with the president after 1600 [0800 GMT] for three hours and a half and there was no mention of the word martial during our seven-and-a-half-hours deliberation. But the word law was very much emphasized, which is respect for the law because we are talking about the oil crisis, the safety and the welfare of our Filipino workers overseas, how to get out those that need to be evacuated. How to assure the country of a supply of oil for the next several months. How to maintain price level. How to get everybody in the political, social, economic, and military and police sectors to work together so that these objectives could be maintained. That is principally, protection of our democracy, maintaning our stability, and getting everybody to adhere to the law. So, don't panic.

[Reporter] Sir, in a statement sir, some military rebels say that will establish several governments in the provinces like Mindanao.

[Ramos] Provisional.

[Reporter] Provisional governments.

[Ramos] Well again, if you will look at the aftermath of December '89, I think it was reported to you that Noble, when he was caught in Samar very briefly, was carrying documents pertaining to the formation of a provisional government in Mindanao. In which he is supposed to be linking up with the civilian groups, preaching an independent movement, as well as a federal republic of Mindanao.

[Ramos] Now I think this is mostly noise. In the sense that if you look at what they are saying now, there's a statement attributed to YOU [Young Officers Union] today to the effect that they already have established a provisional government in Mindanao based in Agusan. Well, what is the evidence on the ground of this provisional government? Do they have a provisional government in any of the towns in Agusan Sur and Agusan Norte? Of course not. None. Even in the very town that he is supposed to be operating in, Esperanza and Saug. It is the locally elected government officials that are in control. It is the duly constituted authorities in the two provinces that are continuing to administer and manage the affairs of the government and what they are claiming is just propaganda noise. To first give the impression to the people here in Manila who are reading these stories and who have really no immediate access to Mindanao, to believe that there is such a thing. But those of us who have units in the field—and I'm sure you can ask the Department of Local Government, the Department of Social Welfare, the Department of Health, even the DENR [Department of Environment and Natural Resources] that is in charge of the forest in Agusan that what I am saying is correct.

So, why should we give credence to what a single spokesman, who is underground and who is on the run, saying about the establishment of a government in a substantial portion of Mindanao. This is unbelievable.

[Reporter] Sir, are you taking seriously the threat of the military rebels to conduct or to seize (power) in the provinces?

[Ramos] Again this was one of those reports that were brought out after the December '89 coup that they would try to grab one or two localities. *That's the only thing they are capable of.* And put up a so-called provisional government. Now as to whether they can hold it for more than one day is a very big question, because the Armed Forces supported by the Integrated National Police and the local government officials can always redeploy and reinforce any beleaguered area. This is what has happened in the case of the CPP- NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army]. They have raided some police stations and municipal halls, but they cannot hold the territory and neither can they continue to maintain the support of the people for them.

[Moderator] Question from Mariette.

[Mariette] Good afternoon, sir. Sir, having ruled out martial law, will the department and the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] recommend putting the nation or part of it under state of emergency, considering the economic impact of the earthquake, Middle East crisis, and all these things?

[Ramos] Well, I told you that during the seven and a half hours that most members of the Cabinet were together and then half of that time with the president, there was no mention about state of emergency, neither martial law. There is an emergency in the country because of this oil crisis, Middle East conflict, and these attempts by the military rebels as well as the CPP-NPA to take advantage of the situation, to exploit the situation aimed at the peace of mind and the welfare of our people. But it does not justify at this time the declaration of a state of national emergency.

[Mariette] Follow up question. Sir, what about recommending the president that the president be given again emergency powers for economic reasons?

[Ramos] Now as I told you there is no basis for that at this time. The one that was declared last December was the aftermath of the failed coup attempt. But that is a far cry from what we have now. That was a much, much more serious situation, although the situation now is still serious. It is serious enough. And we should not underestimate it in terms of the setbacks that the country might suffer in terms of our economic program and our social justice programs, as well as our overall development programs.

[Reporter] Sir, any update on Noble?

[Ramos] He's still on the run.

[Moderator] Dario.

[Dario] Sir, how true is the report, sir, that Turingan, Zumel, and other high-ranking coup leaders, sir, also there with Noble?

[Ramos] That's good if they are there. We'd rather have them there than somewhere else. You know I have been in that area, Esperanza, Saug, the tri-border of Agusan Sur-Agusan Norte, and Misamis Oriental, and it's really very thick jungle area, with nothing but logging road. You have to get there by walking, or maybe if you have a helicopter and can find a little clearing, you can get there. But I will say that a rebel who has holed himself up there, well, that is the best way to keep him isolated. I'll be happy to bring any members of the defense press corps to that area, next time I go to Region 10 and Region 11, so you can see the place. Esperanza, for instance, is on the other side of the Agusan River, if you are coming from Butuan going along the national highway, the Maharlika highway through Prosperidad to

Davao City. You have to travel a way to get to the river, then you have to cross this very wide river to get to Esperanza, and then you go a little further and then you are in the jungle area. That is the Salug area. That is the kind of terrain he's in.

[Reporter] Sir, it seems that Noble is the only one being pursued by the government now. Sir, how about the other rebels like...

[Ramos, interrupting] They are all being pursued.

[Reporter] Do you have any renewed efforts like...

[Ramos] They are all being pursued with renewed efforts. But we will leave that to the tactical commanders to reveal to you in due time.

[Moderator] [name indistinct]

[Reporter] Sir, is it true that Noble and his men poisoned the water supply of Agusan del Sur in response to the food blockade being enforced by the military?

[Ramos] Well, I do not know whether that has actually taken place. But the water supply there anyway is very unreliable and you have to take care when you are drinking from a river or from just an ordinary artesian well because that is a very backward area of the country.

[Reporter] Mr. Secretary, had there been any measures that would ensure that the food blockade there does not duly affect the people?

[Ramos] Yes. As I told you earlier, the entire process of getting Noble started as early as January 1990, with the persuasive efforts utilizing tribal leaders, local leaders, and the friends and classmates of Noble. There are several in the active service stationed in Mindanao that actually tried to persuade him. But now that he has remained very stubborn, the same classmates are also in the campaign to get him by force.

Now, in regard to the food blockade, this food blockade is aimed only at the forces of Noble. But there is no deprivation of food and other essential commodities towards the population at large.

[Moderator] Okay. We will have two last questions. One from Jessica.

[Jessica] Sir, you said that the recent spate of bombings may be a prelude to something more serious and if the rebels have shifted tactics. What scenario does the military foresee now, why they shifted tactics [words indistinct].

[Ramos] Well, if you will recall these tactics before, there was a short period of propaganda buildup and then they moved. That is true in the case of August '87 and December '89. In this case, because first, either they could not move because they have very little to move with, or if they tried to move they were preempted by faster moves by the Armed Forces. They rolled over their plan. That's why they have what is called a rolling plan. And then they substituted for the actual tactical movement, a series of propaganda ploys, threats, and media bluffs including actual threats against likely victims of extortion. And so, the shifting has been in the lengthening of the period of propaganda and threats and bombings which has intensified now because it now because precisely of the other events taking place outside over which we have no control. This is the change in the tactics that they are using now. Now, what are the effects of this? Well, they are hurting a much bigger spectrum of the people than before.

[Reporter] Sir, this shifted tactics, have they shifted their plans of carrying out their plans?

[Ramos] No. Just like the CPP-NPA which is very flexible, very shifty. They sort their tactics but without really changing their objective which is grabbing state power by force, by military means.

[Reporter] Will they do it...

[Ramos, interrupting] The strategy is more or less the same, in that the target that they are aiming at are the people, the consitutional armed forces, specially through the younger officers, and the so-called sensitive sectors of the community, which are the business sector, the financial community, and others.

[Reporter] Sir, would they do it the same way they did in the December and the past coup attempts like August?

[Ramos] They are doing it differently, as I said. They have shifted their tactics. Tactics is operation. Strategy is more long term based on an objective. But the objective is still the same. They want to grab power without going through the constitutional process. Okay?

[Moderator] Any question from you, Manny?

[Manny] No. Thank you.

[Ramos] Okay. Thank you very much.

## Blast Damages Trade Secretary's Bottling Firm

*OW2408040890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0347 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Manila, Aug. 24 (KYODO)—A bundle of dynamite thrown by unidentified men early Friday at a factory owned by the family of Philippine Trade Secretary Jose Concepcion Jr. caused substantial property damage and injured two persons, a company official said. Orlando Banlawe, production supervisor of Cosmos Bottling Co. in San Pedro town, Laguna Province, said witnesses reported several men hurled a bundle of dynamite which landed in front of the bottling plant, destroying a parked hauling truck, shattering windows and hurting a truck driver and one employee of the company. Banlawe said the explosion occurred at around 2:30 A.M. [1730 GMT 23 August]. It was the fifth incident of violence directed at the trade secretary, who has been accused of enriching himself by using his

position, and comes amid a series of bomb blasts in the past week attributed to right-wing Army officers plotting a coup against the government of President Corazon Aquino. Two of Concepcion's offices in the financial district of Makati, as well as the Republic Flour Milling Corp. in Mandaluyong, and his pig farm in Calamba town, also in Laguna Province, have been bombed by suspected rebel soldiers. On Thursday, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said the rash of bombings has whipped up a "very serious" situation and could be a prelude to a coup attempt by the rebel soldiers, which would include the killing of senior government officials.

### Second Explosion Hits Plant

*HK2408121990 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Another explosion occurred a while ago at the Cosmos Bottling Corporation. This soft drinks plant is owned by the family of Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion. Three people were reported dead. In this connection, Concepcion said he would not be intimidated by these bombings, saying he is determined to help in retaining this government in power.

### Aquino Praises Democracy in Anniversary Speech

*HK2108121590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 21 Aug 90*

[President Corazon Aquino's speech, broadcast in progress at a mass at Santo Domingo Church commemorating the seventh anniversary of the death of her husband Senator Benigno Aquino Jr.—recorded; italicized portions in English]

[Text] *...fully well that is the best imperfect system in a world where all other systems are imperfect. The other discovery is that democracy provides the best formula for economic progress. Even the communist leaders now accept this. But, in the end, it is people that democracy is all about. A system of, by, and for the people. What makes democracy work is people committed to freedom and the courage to defend it to the death.*

*Happily and proudly, we have that kind of people.* In the final analysis, however, it is the people who personify the spirit of democracy. A government made up of people, pursuing the interests of the people. The success of democracy lies on the shoulders and in the hands of people faithful to freedom and possessed of the courage to defend it to the death.

There continue to exist attempts to divide us. They continue to sow discord among us. They are challenging the government, not to help it, but to destroy and eventually topple it. These people will not succeed if we keep our faith in one another. And especially if we keep faith with our Lord.

My faith in you measures up to that of Ninoy in you. We have trust in our Armed Forces, as 98 percent of the military also kept faith in us and fought for our democracy during the December coup d'etat. Faith and cooperation will propel the Philippine nation toward peace and progress.

## Further Reportage on Congressional Recess

### Justified by House Speaker

*HK2308113790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Congress does not believe another planned coup d'etat is about to take place, and if ever there is one, they do not believe it will succeed. House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. stressed this to erase the citizens' doubts and fears concerning rumors of an impending attempt to seize power from the current government. Speaker Mitra clarified Congress' move is a preparation for any event in the country, and he stressed Congress will not allow a situation wherein they would only act when there is already chaos. Here is an excerpt of Mitra's explanation:

[Begin Mitra recording] When are you going to move? When the coup d'etat has already taken place? That's why, before we passed this resolution, we said not many believed it would happen, or that if it did take place, it would be successful. We do not believe it would succeed. But when are you going to prepare? When it is already there? You cannot deny that wherever you go this is the topic of conversation. [end recording]

### Aquino Hails Decision

*HK2308001090 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 22 Aug 90*

[Report by Dick Sinchongco from Malacanang Palace—live or recorded]

[Text] The president praised the two chambers of Congress for their decision to recess and to inform their constituents of the threats against the government. She said she supports the one- week recess declared by the Senate and the House of Representatives after they learned about the true situation in the country in a briefing conducted by leaders of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The congressional recess was intended to give the senators and congressmen a chance to explain to their constituents the threats to democracy and freedom of the country.

Meanwhile, the president again stressed that any attempts against the government will not succeed as long as the people are united in defending democracy and freedom. The president made the assertion even as the military announced that it has foiled a seventh coup attempt against the Aquino government. But the president did not confirm reports of the military foiling a new coup attempt during the weekend.

### Central Bank Reserves at More Than $2 Billion

*HK2408063490 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 24 Aug 90 p 1*

[By Alex B. Reyes]

[Text] Central Bank [CB] Governor Jose L. Cuisia, Jr., yesterday said the CB's international reserves, amounting to over $2 billion, are "enough to stunt any speculative attack on the peso [P]."

Meeting with newsmen, Mr. Cuisia stressed that the amount is $500 million more than what the CB had exactly a year ago and is greater than the 1989 average holdings of $1.736 billion. The CB's gross servers will get a further boost when the $118.5 million second tranche from commercial banks is received on August 29.

Mr. Cuisia attributed the heavy demand for foreign exchange in the last few weeks to the removal of the forward cover for oil imports. The unusually strong demand should ease with restoration beginning September 1 of a 180-day foreign exchange cover which insures oil corporations from fluctuations in the value of the peso.

Mr. Cuisia reiterated the CB's policy of refraining from intervention and allowing market forces to determine the peso's exchange rate, "except in cases of excessive fluctuations where the CB's intervention is warranted." He did not define what the CB considers as "excessive fluctation."

In response to news reports that the CB deliberately pushed down peso value in last Wednesday's trading, Mr. Cuisia explained that the sale of $20 million at P25 was merely meant to assist banks in meeting the "bunched up" demand for dollars that day.

"We prefer to see banks handling the transactions themselves," he said. Estimates place the foreign exchange requirements of the three oil companies at $185 million for the month of August of which $40 million has still to be filled. Mr. Cuisia added that last Wednesday's sale was not an open market operation targetted to siphon liquidity out of the system. Draining pesos from banks was "a secondary effect. We were looking at it from the need to service the needs of the oil corporations. The objective was to fill their requirements."

The CB Governor pointed to pure speculation as the reason behind the wide gap between the official rate and the black market rate. "We're monitoring the foreign currency deposit units (FCDU). We don't see any signs of capital flight." Mr. Cuisia also said rumors that the CB was thinking of freezing the FCDUs might be part of destabilization efforts. "The laws do not allow us to do that."

### Government Warns Radio, TV on 'Sensationalism'

*HK2408052990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 24 Aug 90 p 8*

[By Mitos S. Garcia]

[Text] The government warned radio and television stations yesterday that stiffer penalties will be imposed on them soon for airing "indecent newscasts" and "unconfirmed and unverified" news reports.

During a meeting with the officers and directors of the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas (KMP [Association of Philippine Broadcasters]), Commissioner Josefina T. Lichauco of the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) ordered the formulation "within seven working days of stiffer sanctions and penalties against "news reporting that has transgressed the limits of decent reporting."

Lichauco said that during the past two years the manner of reporting news deteriorated. She cited a program where private parts of a murdered woman's body were shown on TV. She added that some radio and TV stations also air unconfirmed and unverified reports, causing panic and violating KBP standards.

"TV broadcast news reporting has deteriorated in favor of sensationalism, and there is a need to address the problem immediately," the NTC chief said. Lichauco added that the broadcast industry is self-regulating through the KBP. "But it is an announced policy of the NTC that those who are not members of the KBP or have resigned from the KBP will have to be regulated by the NTC which has adopted KBP program standards," she said. In a related development, NTC engineer Carlos Saliuan, officer- in-charge of the NTC broadcast division, said that the KBP can recommend the maximum penalty against erring stations and that the organization can also initiate proceedings against an erring member.

## Thailand

### Further on Response to Iraq-Kuwait Situation

#### Iraqi Deadline To Be Ignored

*BK2408003190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Aug 90 p 1*

[Excerpt] The Thai Embassy in Kuwait City will remain open despite the deadline set by Iraq for all embassies in Kuwait to close down today, Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan said yesterday.

Speaking to reporters before his departure for Amman, he said three Thai Embassy staff members, including the charge d'affaires, would stay on in order to arrange for the evacuation of the remaining Thai workers from Kuwait. He said the staff would vacate the embassy only when they are intimidated by Iraqi troops to the extent that staying any longer would put them in danger.

"In that case, the Thai Embassy still exists legally," he explained. Thailand's defying of Baghdad's deadline to vacate its embassy in Kuwait is in line with the tough position adopted by most western governments.

The Deputy Foreign Minister said that during his three-day mission to Jordan he would ask Amman to keep its border with Iraq open as a special case to allow stranded Thai workers to get out of Iraq and into Jordan for transit to Thailand. He said Jordan had decided to close its border with Iraq effective by 5 a.m. Bangkok time this morning because it had already taken a large number of refugees fleeing Kuwait and Iraq and could no longer absorb any more.

He added that he would also ask for Amman's permission to open a temporary holding centre in the Jordanian capital to receive Thai workers. Mr Praphat said he would also supervise the return of Thai workers from Jordan, reconfirm Thailand's intention to keep its embassy in Kuwait City open and grant a decoration to the honorary Thai consul-general in Amman who is a Jordanian.

About 690 Thai workerrs are to be flown home from Jordan today until Sunday, he said, adding that four Thai stewardesses of the Kuwaiti airline had successfully fled Kuwait into Amman by having their hair cut short and disguising themselves as men. He urged Thai workers still in Kuwait to try to leave the country if there is an opportunity and if the escape is not too risky. [passage omitted]

### Praphat Leaves for Jordan

*BK2308161190 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Second Lieutenant Praphat Limpaphan and his delegation left for Jordan for talks to ask Jordan to open the border, which the Jordanian Government announced it would close at midnight yesterday [0500 Thai time on 23 August] because Jordan was unable to take care of all the refugees.

[Begin Praphat recording] We will talk on this issue. We will ask them to reopen the border. I believe there will be no problem. The only problem is that there is a shortage of living quarters there. So, evacuations have to be done quickly. [end recording]

Now, there are about 1,400 Thai workers remaining at refugee camps in Jordan. The Thai side is attempting to set up a relief center to help the Thai refugees by assuring the Jordanian Government that it will send all Thai workers out of Jordan immediately so that it will not be a burden for that country. Thailand will help relieve Jordan's burden by sending food there. The food can be sent there with the aircraft of the Royal Jordanian Airlines, which are chartered by the government to send back the Thai workers.

According to the latest report concerning the Thai workers in Kuwait and Iraq, the 141 Thai workers arrested by the Iraqi troops have been released. They will fly from Baghdad to Jordan tonight. After that, they immediately will board other flights for Thailand. They are all male workers, no children and women. Regarding the five female air hostesses of Kuwait Airways stranded in Kuwait since the Iraqi invasion, the Foreign Ministry was informed that they have already fled into Jordan by disguising themselves as men. The Thai Government has not officially closed the Thai Embassy in Kuwait. Three staff, the charge d'affaires, the labor attache, and a communications official, are remaining in the embassy. The Thai side has already reported this to Iraq. On his trip to Jordan, Praphat will confer a royal decoration on the Thai honorary consul in Jordan and present a message from Thai Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila thanking the Jordanian Government for allowing Thailand to set up a relief center.

### Saudi Envoy on Thai Workers

*BK2308123990 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1410 GMT 22 Aug 90*

[Live telephone interview with Muhammad Said Khoja, Saudi Arabian ambassador to Thailand, by Somkiat Onwimon, Army TV Channel 5 anchorman; Somkiat, Khoja speak in English, followed by Somkiat passage-by-passage translations into Thai]

[Text] [Somkiat] Good evening, Your Excellency.
[Khoja] Yes, good evening.
[Somkiat] I would like to ask a few questions as we have the time right now. The first one is: What is your plan, the plan of the Government of Saudi Arabia, to assist the Thai workers there?
[Khoja] We have traditions, and in our behavior we follow our principles, and we always help the people who are working with us as the members of the family of Saudi Arabia. And this is the way of our royal family. They behave with us the same as if we are the members of the big family of His Majesty King Fahd and [words indistinct]. We don't have a special plan for the workers, but we are ready to help them get away from the problems of the Middle East. But I want to assure you on this occasion that we are not going to use them as shelters, and we are not going to hide behind them like someone else who is hiding behind women and babies.

[Somkiat] Thank you, sir. May I translate that into Thai for a few seconds.
[Khoja] Yes.
[Somkiat] Okay, we are going to the next question. I took the liberty of interpreting your last remark alluding to the president of the neighboring, aggressor country. I hope you don't mind.
[Khoja] It is well known to everyone.

[Somkiat] The next question is: Are there employment opportunities for Thai workers in Saudi Arabia right now, since they have had to move from Kuwait and Iraq?
[Khoja] We are an open country for everyone; whatever work they want to do in Saudi Arabia, they are most welcome. I believe it was in the news that the deputy minister of foreign affairs and the other delegations were

in Saudi Arabia last week, and they discussed the matter and they believe you will hear very good news in the very near future.

[Somkiat] Your Excellency, the third question would be: Since your government is not granting entry visas to Saudi Arabia to the Thai workers right now, is there any plan for your government to change this policy?
[Khoja] First of all, I want to explain that this plan not to allow the workers to go to Saudi Arabia is not a punishment for the workers. It is only knocking on the doors of these people who worked in Saudi Arabia to tell them that we had a problem in Thailand in that time of the assassinations of the four diplomats. That is why I am here.

[Somkiat] Do you have any plans to change this policy in the near future?
[Khoja] I have no doubt this problem will be over very soon and this file will be closed.

[Somkiat] Thank you. Finally, this is the last question: Your Excellency, do you feel that Saudi Arabia right now is still safe for foreign workers?
[Khoja] There is contradiction between this question and the other question that you asked me before. If you don't feel, or your people don't feel, that Saudi Arabia is safe, then why are you asking me if it is possible for the workers to go and work in Saudi Arabia? Saudi Arabia is safe, always, and it will remain safe for peace-loving people. The workers from Thailand or from all over the world, or for the other foreigners, they are in safe hands in Saudi Arabia.

[Somkiat] Thank you sir, Your Excellency. We appreciate the time you have given us. I probably would like to apologize for the last question if it is not in line with the others, but the people are curious about the situation there right now. Maybe it does not relate to the workers directly, but to the overall crisis in the Gulf in general. So, thank you sir.
[Khoja] Thank you very much.

[Somkiat] Good night.
[Khoja] Thank you.

## Editorial Predicts Chemical Use

*BK2308105190 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 23 Aug 90 p 5*

[Editorial: "Nuclear War"]

[Text] The crisis in the Persian Gulf is intensifying and there is no chance that it can be solved peacefully. It is a matter of who will fire the first shot.

We regret that Iraq has not given the United States and its allies enough alternatives. In the end, the United States and its allies will have no choice but to act within the framework set by Iraq.

Iraq has used foreign hostages as bargaining chips. It has set up Soviet-made Scud missiles, whose range is 400-500 km, in Kuwait in order to shell Saudi Arabia. This action will not give Iraq any advantage because the U.S. naval armada has lethal missiles which could strike strategic locations in Iraq and Kuwait. Moreover, Saudi Arabia and such allies as the UK, France, Egypt, Turkey, Morocco, and even Libya [as published] are ready to join hands to annihilate Iraq. These countries possess enough deadly weapons to destroy Iraq at any time.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is playing a dirty trick by using foreigners to shield important military, telecommunications, and oil storage installations, transforming these innocent victims into hostages.

Rescue of these hostages is an impossible task. For this reason, it is expected that the United States and the UK will be forced to sacrifice the hostages and retaliate violently in a way that the Muslims call "an eye for an eye" in order to preserve world justice and the common interests of all oil-consuming countries.

The rival sides in this crisis have already cocked their weapons. It is all a matter of who will fire first. Women and children in Iraq and Kuwait have been used as shields by the Iraqi president. The Iraqi population and property will be destroyed in the wink of an eye if a war ever breaks out.

This will be a nuclear war right from the start, and chemical weapons will be used openly. The damage will far exceed that of any previous war.

## Leaders Meet Japan's Watanabe on Cambodia Issue

### Chatchai Sees Possible Settlement

*OW2308141690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1336 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Bangkok, Aug. 23 KYODO—Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan told a conservative Japanese politician Thursday that a comprehensive Cambodian peace settlement is possible this year.

In a meeting with Michio Watanabe, the former policy chief of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Chatchai vowed every effort to set up the supreme national council (SNC)—a proposed provisional government —as soon as possible in cooperation with Japan to end the 12-year war in Cambodia.

The prime minister said that if the SNC is formed, combining the three Cambodian resistance factions and the Phnom Penh government, he will work for the SNC to get Cambodia's seat in the United Nations. The coalition grouping the resistance factions now holds the seat.

A Thai Government spokesman said Chatchai cited positive indications from China and Phnom Penh to

support his optimism. He said China, which has never recognized the Phnom Penh government, has started to accept its existence.

The Phnom Penh government, meanwhile, has also softened its earlier rejection of the major role the resistance is seeking for the U.N. in Cambodia during the reconciliation period, the spokesman said.

Watanabe is in Bangkok as head of a Japanese parliamentary delegation on a two-week tour of Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Indonesia. He had met leaders in Phnom Penh and Hanoi before meeting with Chatchai. Watanabe told Chatchai that Phnom Penh leaders had expressed concern about the Khmer Rouge's role in the SNC, according to Japanese officials.

The Phnom Penh leaders are worried that the Khmer Rouge representatives in the SNC might obstruct the functioning of the council, the officials quoted Watanabe as saying. Chatchai, however, stressed that all four Cambodian parties must be included in the SNC to ensure a peace settlement, the Thai spokesman said.

"China intends to stop providing arms to the Khmer Rouge if the United States and the Soviet Union do so to other rival factions," Chatchai quoted Chinese Premier Li Peng as saying. Li visited Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand earlier this month. Watanabe is to meet Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila on Friday and leave for Jakarta on Saturday.

### Sitthi Discusses SNC

*BK2408125990 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] At 0830 today, Michio Watanabe, former Japanese minister of finance and minister of international trade and industries minister, and currently a member of Liberal Democratic Party, paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila at the Foreign Ministry. Watanabe discussed his visit to Hanoi and Phnom Penh in mid-July with the foreign minister.

At 1030, Suraphong Chaiyanam, acting director of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, reported on the meeting between Sitthi and Watanabe. He said Watanabe briefed Sitthi on his meetings with senior Vietnamese officials, including party Secretary General Nguyen Van Linh, Premier Do Muoi, and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach. The Vietnamese reiterated to Watanabe that all Vietnamese troops had been withdrawn from Cambodia and welcomed an international verification of the withdrawal. Watanabe said the Vietnamese and Phnom Penh leaders were intent on not participating in any international meeting attended by the Khmer Rouge.

According to Watanabe, uneven but improving relations between China and the Soviet Union, and unsmooth relations between China and Vietnam and between Vietnam and the United States, are obstacles to a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem. Watanabe feels that an improvement in Chinese-Vietnamese relations will generate great impetus for a solution to the Cambodian problem. He said Nguyen Van Linh agreed with his suggestion that Linh visit China to meet Deng Xiaoping, providing China is willing to receive him.

Summing up his meeting with Phnom Penh leaders, Watanabe said the Phnom Penh regime would not accept Khmer Rouge participation in the supreme national council [SNC]. Personally, Watanabe feels that the SNC should be established as soon as possible, but this will be difficult considering the present obstacles. He feels that Hun Sen seemed more open-minded than Heng Samrin and Chea Sim.

In his conversation with Watanabe, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi said the Thai and ASEAN stand on the SNC is widely recognized. ASEAN wants the SNC to be established soon, before the UN general assembly if possible. Thailand thanks the Japanese Government for its efforts on the resolution of the Cambodian problem. Regarding the Khmer Rouge, Thailand and ASEAN feel it is difficult to leave out any faction because it would contradict the principle of national reconciliation. The ASEAN support for the SNC hinges on the resolution of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council which says the SNC should not be composed of representatives of any political group. This concept is widely supported, including by the National Government of Cambodia led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk. However, Vietnam and the Phnom Penh regime have continued to oppose the concept.

Finally, Watanabe said foreign military support for any Cambodian faction should cease, because continued support will exacerbate the problem. He said China has assured that it will end its support to the Khmer Rouge.

Watanabe is scheduled to visit Indonesia and Burma after Thailand.

### PRC's Deputy Commerce Minister Arrives 24 Aug

*BK2408072990 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Chinese Deputy Commerce Minister Zhang Shiyao and his delegation arrived in Thailand this morning to discuss ways to expand Thai-Chinese trade. Thai Deputy Commerce Minister Phinya Chuaiplot, who received the Chinese trade delegation at Bangkok International Airport, told reporters:

[Begin recording] I think, for the purpose of visits by each Chinese delegation...[changes thought]. We regard China as a big market for our rice and other products. I remember that several provinces in China have a expressed desire for our goods. During a recent trip to Henan, they said they wanted to import our tapioca products. The visiting Chinese minister will meet our commerce minister to discuss the matter. The Chinese

minister will have the opportunity to visit several provinces in the north, south, and other parts of the country, including Rat Buri, Chiang Mai, and Phatthaya. It is expected that their visit would promote better understanding between the two countries. [end recording]

### Minister on Thai-Vietnamese Agricultural Ties

*BK2408084590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Deputy Agriculture and Cooperatives Minister Charoen Khanthawong briefed on future plans to promote bilateral cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam in agriculture and fishing.

[Begin recording] We would like to find out how way we can cooperate in fishing and other areas, especially in agriculture. I have informed them that we would like to observe their agricultural activities in general, such as fruit planting and rice farming. We would like to see what kinds of fruits they grow. We would like to be more acquainted with them because Vietnam is also our neighbor. It would be better to know more about each other. [end recording]

### MP Says Army Officers Criticize Government

*BK2308024590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Aug 90 p 2*

[Text] Khon Kaen—A solidarity MP [member of Parliament] expressed concern yesterday about frequent meetings by a group of senior military officers to criticize the performance of the government, saying this could lead to public doubts about the nation's political stability.

Khon Kaen MP Somsak Khun-ngoen said the officers, led by former army chief Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Supreme Commander Sunthon Khongsomphong, have begun to meet more frequently and criticize the administration in the wake of a number of corruption charges against the government.

"I'm worried that democratic politics won't be able to develop any further in Thailand. I don't mean to say that the military will overthrow the government, but the government and the armed forces don't trust each other and anything could happen," he said.

Somsak said Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's plan for a major Cabinet reshuffle was not the best option as it might only allow the government to remain in office for a short period.

"It's no use. The government has already collapsed," he said. "The best thing the government could do is to step down, either by (the premier) resigning or dissolving Parliament."

Somsak also seemed to disagree with Gen [General] Chawalit's plans to set up his own political party. "I don't understand why he has to waste time forming his own party. Aren't the existing parties good enough for him?"

Somsak said the Solidarity Party had approached Chawalit about joining the largest opposition party.

### Solidarity Party Candidate Wins By-Election

*BK2008010590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Aug 90 pp 1, 2*

[Excerpts] Lamphun—Anuson Wongwan of the Solidarity Party yesterday won a decisive victory over his Social Democratic Force rival, Suthon Limpisathian, in the Lamphun parliamentary by-election which saw the highest percentage of invalid ballots in an election in recent history.

Lamphun Governor Sawang Intharanak said many of the ballots were intentionally invalidated. Some Lamphun residents had earlier threatened to boycott the election because neither candidate was a native of the province. [passage omitted]

Anuson, the son of Solidarity leader Narong Wongwan and a businessman making his political debut in national politics, received 80,322 votes while 33,697 votes were cast for Suthon. The results were an official tally from 357 polling stations in 5 districts and 2 sub-districts in the northern province.

The turnout was 48 per cent, far lower than the 70 per cent expected by the provincial administration. There were 260,000 eligible voters. [passage omitted]

Anuson's victory retained the seat for the largest opposition party, two months after it was vacated by Solidarity MP [member of Parliament] Saman Chomphuthep, who was forced to leave the party in the wake of a forgery scandal. [passage omitted]

### Phalang Tham Leader Opposes Joining Coalition

*BK2408010590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Aug 90 p 1*

[Text] Bangkok Governor Chamlong Simuang reaffirmed yesterday that he would quit as Phalang Tham Party [PDP] leader if any of the party's 14 MPs [members of parliament] joins the coalition in a Cabinet reshuffle.

The PDP leader said yesterday he considered the dispute over the move by a group of his party MPs to join the coalition was over and he would try to refrain from making further comments to put an end to it. "I will now wait to see if there will be a Cabinet reshuffle and if any of the PDP MPs are included, then I will resign.

"A politician lives on the confidence of the public. It takes years for a politician to build up the people's confidence. It should not be allowed to be destroyed in just a blink of an eye. I'd rather go back and be the old

Chamlong than remain leader of a political party like this," Maj-Gen [Major General] Chamlong said.

He said whether or not the PDP should join the coalition had been amply discussed in the party, privately and formally, denying he had refused to listen to the opposite view.

In the last meeting on Tuesday, Maj-Gen Chamlong admitted he had "excused" himself from the meeting when the MPs brought up the possibility of joining the coalition again because he felt that there was nothing new and he had a lot of work to do at the BMA [Bangkok Metropolitan Administration].

Several groups of people as well as party members turned up at the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and at PDP headquarters to express support for the PDP's policy against joining the coalition. PDP deputy leader Suthep Atthakon read out a statement at a press conference to reaffirm that the PDP would uphold its stand against joining the coalition for the time being. The PDP, he said, had promised that it would not join the coalition because the present administration comprised too many political parties to enable it to effectively implement its policy. It still upholds this promise until the new election, Mr Suthep said.

He said there has been no party resolution to join the coalition and the opinion expressed by some of the PDP's 14 MPs favouring joining the Government did not reflect the party's stand. The PDP MPs' claim that they wanted to join the coalition to stop group of people from destroying democracy was only a personal view. The party's city councillors, district councillors, political engineers and a large number of people supported the party and the leader's position on the issue, he said.

Mr Suthep said he believed the different opinions in the PDP could be patched up through talks and he did not anticipate the problem would expand. He said that the party was always ready to forgive the nine renegade PDP MPs led by Udomsin Sisaengnam if they were to change their mind about joining the coalition.

Thinawat Marukhaphithak, reportedly among PDP MPs favouring joining the coalition, announced yesterday that he would join the nine MPs only with Maj-Gen Chamlong's approval. He said Dr Udomsin, Adm [Admiral] Siri Sirirangsi and himself had tried to meet with Maj-Gen Chamlong on Tuesday morning to discuss the group's rationale of joining the coalition but the PDP leader refused to see them.

Meanwhile, a group of about 200 party political engineers submitted a three-point proposal to Maj-Gen Chamlong at his residence in Bang Khen last night urging him to remain as PDP leader, to refrain from letting the party join the coalition and to allow the nine MPs to join the Government by themselves, if they insist on it.

## Editorial Says Phalang Tham Losing Luster

*BK2408012990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Aug 90 p 4*

[Editorial: "Phalang Tham Loses Its Lustre"]

[Text] When the Phalang Tham Party was formed more than two years ago to contest the July 1988 general election, it generated a great deal of euphoric optimism among a broad section of the politically-conscious, Bangkok middle class. Against the negative backdrop of vote-buying and other questionable electioneering practices in previous polls, the party was seen as a viable alternative in large measure because it was headed by the "Political Mr Clean" Maj-Gen Chamlong Simuang. Although it returned only 14 MPs, the performance was not especially disappointing in light of the fact that it was the party's debut in national politics. There were enough people prepared to support the party for it to grow in future elections.

But whatever long-term future Phalang Tham might have had appears to have been put at severe risk because of the internecine rift which has rocked the party over whether to join the Chatchai Chunhawan coalition government. Nine of the MPs had declared their intention of joining the Government against the strong wishes of Maj-Gen Chamloang who threatened to resign the party leadership. The rebel faction led by deputy party leader Siri Sirirangsi and secretary-general Udomsi Srisaengnam had claimed the noble aim of wanting to help preserve the democratic system to justify their surprise move. Meanwhile, Maj-Gen Chamlong had conveyed his message to the prime minister that he would resign the party leadership if his MPs were really accepted into any new Cabinet line-up.

It is perhaps understandable why the prime minister would like to have Phalang Tham as part of a reshuffled coalition. Coming in the face of mounting criticism over corruption in government cricles, the widely-publicised scandal surrounding the sacked deputy interior minister Santi Chaiwiratthana and his damaging accusations that his senior party stalwarts were instructed to raise 500 million baht had not only shattered the reputation of the Social Action Party but also badly bruised the broader image of the coalition government. The end result has been a sharp erosion of the government's credibility. A party with a "clean" profile like Phalang Tham could help shore up the coalition image if it were brought into the government.

But, alas, the Phalang Tham MPs should have been wiser. Their sudden decision to accept the government's invitation to become a new coalition partner does sit well with an electorate that still remembers the party's pledge to perform its parliamentary duty as a "neutral opposition" or to refrain from becoming the government until such a time as it won a majority. [sentence as received] The explanation by those who were eager to join the

Government that party policies could change to correspond with changing political conditions sounds self-serving at best—particularly in light of the harsh criticisms against various aspects of the Administration aired by these very MPs during the recent censure debate.

Indeed, the Phalang Tham secretary-general was right when he said that public faith in the present "democratic" system has plunged to a new low as a result of the snowballing impact of the corruption controversy. He might also be correct to warn of the potential danger of some ill-intentioned elements capitalising on the current situation to sabotage or even destroy democracy. But aside from their individual and party principles, Dr Udomsin and his colleagues should ask themselves whether they could really make a difference by joining the government.

We have stated here before that the current parliamentary democracy is good but what is bad is the corrupt nature and practice of some of the players in the system. As representatives of the people, the Phalang Tham MPs should perform their check-and-balance functions to help weed out the undersirable elements—in much the same manner as other extra-parliamentary forces, the institution of the print media included, are trying to do. Although the damage to their personal integrity has already been done, it may not be too late for the MPs in question to rethink their position. After all, they may not be welcomed by the Government if their party leader refuses to go along.

## Pattani Police Arrest Lese Majeste Suspect

*BK2408085790 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] According to a Radio Thailand correspondent, the Pattani Provincial Police have arrested the third suspect in a lese majeste case that took place at a mosque in Pattani Province.

[Begin recording Police Colonel Sutham Banbamrung, the Pattani Provincial Police superintendent] On 22 August, we arrested Adun Chema, or Hajimae Busin, age 28, at 51/2 village group 1, Tambon Pase Yawo, Sai Buri District, Pattani Province. He is one of the suspects of the lese majeste case. The warrant for his arrest was issued on 10 July. During the initial questioning, Adun admitted that he participated in every rally held at the Kruze mosque and was the assistant spokesman at those rallies. [end recording]

## Work Slowdown Underway at Thai National Airways

*BK1808031690 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Aug 90 p 1, 3*

[Text] Thai Airways International [THAI] mechanics have quietly staged a work slowdown since Monday, causing flight delays as well as cancellations, a highly-placed company source told THE BANGKOK POST last night.

The source who preferred to remain anonymous said the slowdown, which is manifested by sick leave and refusal to work overtime, came after the THAI board on August 8 reconfirmed a July 26 resolution to refer the flight simulator controversy to the Public Prosecution Department.

The controversy surfaced early this year when two committees set up by THAI refused to accept delivery of the 500-million-baht Singer Link-Miles A300-600 simulation equipment, claiming it did not meet the airline's specifications. It was also alleged that some company executives changed the specifications without the company's consent and also signed an agreement committing THAI to the payment of more than 400 million baht before delivery of the flight simulator.

The source pointed out that it was very suspicious that the work slowdown came less than a week after the board decided to refer the controversial case to the Public Prosecution Department to determine if the change of specifications without the company's consent was damaging to the company and whether the action was a violation of regulations.

The source, however, said that THAI mechanics had been pressing the management for a pay rise and better fringe benefits for some time. "They claimed that cabin attendants had already been promised a pay increase and better fringe benefits, but not them," he added.

The source said some elements in THAI might manipulate the mechanics' pay rise demand to cause flight disruption so that the blame could be directed at the management, particularly managing director Air Marshal Wira Kitchathon, with the hope that he might be replaced and, consequently, the probe into the controversial simulator case could be shelved.

The source said that some senior executives yesterday met with the mechanics and tried to persuade them to stop the work slowdown. The mechanics promised to try to improve the situation, but did not give any concrete commitment, he said.

## Jan-Jul Rice Exports Volume, Value Decrease

*BK2008020190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Aug 90 p 19*

[Text] Thai rice exports in the first seven months this year totalled 2,155,426.62 tons worth 15,889.21 million baht, down 47.4 percent in volume and 44.75 percent in value from 4,099,120.83 tons worth 28,759.37 million baht during January-July 1989, the Board of Trade's Rice Committee chairman, Saman Ophatwong, reported.

Mr Saman said the average export price of rice during January-July 1990 was 7,371.72 baht per ton, against 7,015.98 baht in the same period last year.

But he expressed confidence that measures taken by the Government together with an improving market situation would see higher Thai rice exports in the second half

of the year. He said Iraq's invasion of Kuwait would certainly affect exports as both countries were good buyers of Thai rice. They bought 112,168 and 49,446 tons, respectively, during January-July this year.

The Government's Rice Policy Committee on August 8 approved plans by about 11 government agencies to buy rice under the market intervention scheme for the 1990-91 rice crop. A total of 13,125 million baht will be used by the government agencies to buy rice to help boost its price.

## Vietnam

### Workers Reportedly To Return From East Europe

*BK2308131490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1255 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Hanoi, Aug 23 (AFP)—More than 20,000 Vietnamese now in East Germany will likely return home by the end of the year with some having their contracts cut, a Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Welfare official said Thursday. He said all of the 24,000 Vietnamese now working in Bulgaria and the 40,000 Vietnamese labourers in Czechoslovakia would return home after finishing their contracts by 1992 and 1995 respectively.

The measures were due to the major changes, including a shift from central, subsidised socialist systems to market economies, in those countries in the last year.

However, Vietnam was likely to continue providing skilled labour in the light industry and construction sectors to the Soviet Union when agreements for the 1991-95 period are worked out later this year, said Nghiem Xuan Tue, vice director of the ministry's Department of International Relations.

Under a pact signed earlier this year, Vietnam is not sending any workers to the Soviet Union currently but those in the country can be moved to different areas as needs dictate.

Mr. Tue said that the East German Embassy here, which is due to close in the next few weeks ahead of German reunification in October, had informed the ministry that 20,000 of the 60,000 Vietnamese workers in East Germany would be sent home from now until the end of the year. But "according to our estimate we think we'll receive 24,000, based on the reorganisation of their production system," Mr. Tue said, adding that those workers whose contracts had been cut short would receive 70 per cent of the salary they would have received for the remaining period.

An agreement had been signed by East Berlin and Hanoi to safeguard rights of workers remaining there in "the complicated situation," while labour pacts would continue with a unified Germany though the labour provided would likely be worked out by private parties rather than the two governments, he said.

Czechoslovakia has said it no longer needs foreign workers and has asked all Vietnamese workers to return home once their contracts have ended, with the last Vietnamese to return home in 1995. About 4,000 are expected to be repatriated this year, while ministerial talks on workers' rights are likely to be held here next month between Czechoslovakia and Vietnam, Mr. Tue said.

Under a similar deal the Vietnamese workers in Bulgaria will have all returned home by the time the last contract is up in 1992, he said, adding however that the situation was flexible and that if those countries changed their policies in the future Vietnam was willing to supply labour.

There are some six million unemployed people in this nation of 65 million, according to official figures.

Meanwhile, Vietnamese authorities have told bright students that they will not be able to further their studies in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe this year due to the changes. The Education Ministry on Tuesday issued a statement saying Vietnam, the Soviet Union and East European countries were not in a position to forge new agreements on training and education of Vietnamese "due to major political, social and economic upheaval," in Eastern Europe. As a result students would not be accepted for study courses in those countries this year, the NHAN DAN newspaper reported Thursday.

### U.S. Groups Call for Normalization of Relations

*BK2408091990 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Twenty-two American social organizations, in a joint message to President George Bush, said full diplomatic, political, and humanitarian relations will be of great benefit to our two peoples. The message further said:

The time has come to heal the wounds of war between the United States and Vietnam and to establish a true and lasting peace between our two nations. We urge you not to renew the trade embargo currently in place against Vietnam. We urge the normalization of relations between the United States and Vietnam.

Signatories to the joint message included American Friend Service Committee, Asian Resource Center, Clergy and Laity Concerned, Federation of American Scientists, U.S. Committee for Scientific Cooperation with Vietnam, U.S.-Indochina Reconciliation Project, National Network of Indochina Activities, U.S. Peace Council, U.S.-Vietnam Friendship, We Will Strive for Peace, Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Association of Vietnamese in the United States, Afro-America, etc.

## Japanese Parliamentarian Group Visits 21-23 Aug

*BK2308154090 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 23—A delegation of the Japanese House of Representatives headed by Michio Watanabe visited Vietnam from August 21-23.

The delegation included Representatives Toshio Yamaguchi, Koji Kakizawa, Yoshiyuki Tohya, and Shunichi Yamaguchi. They were received on separate occasions by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Nguyen Co Thach, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs. The guests had working sessions with Phan Van Khai, chairman of the State Planning Committee.

During the meetings, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, the two sides exchanged views on matters of mutual concern, including the Cambodia question, and discussed measures to strengthen the relations between the two countries.

The Japanese delegation expressed sincere thanks to the Vietnamese leaders for their hospitality, and affirmed that the Japanese side would continue to contribute to the search for a political solution to the Cambodia issue, and to bring the Vietnam-Japan relations to a new stage of development.

Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Kuniaki Asmura took part in the above-said activities.

## DPRK Economic Delegation Visits 22-23 Aug

*BK2408113490 Hanoi VNA in English 0722 GMT 24 Aug 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 24—An economic delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by In Sung Hoa, vice chairman of the State Planning Commission, visited Vietnam on August 22-23.

On August 22, the DPRK delegation was received by Tran Duc Luong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and earlier in the day by Phan Van Khai, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State Planning Commission.

Also present at these receptions were Le Xuan Trinh, vice chairman of the State Planning Commission; and Kim Yong Pil, charge d'affairs a.i. of the DPRK Embassy here.

The two sides exchanged views on the two countries' cooperative relations in economy and trade for the 1991-95 period.

The Korean guests also had working sessions with various Vietnamese offices concerned and toured some economic establishments in Hoang Lien Son Province and Haiphong Port City in the north, Phu Yen Province and Ho Chi Minh City in the south.

On August 23, Le Xuan Trinh and In Sung Hoa signed the minute of the working session between the two sides.

## Army Journal Views PRC Rapid Deployment Force

*BK2308161190 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Jun 90, pp 86-90, 44*

[Article by Hoang Chuong: "China and the Question of Building a Rapid Deployment Force"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Worthy of note is that in the training of rapid deployment units, Chinese military strategists have been very enthusiastic and have emphasized studying experiences and tactics that the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force adopted in launching raids by land, air, and sea to rescue American hostages in Iran in 1980 and to invade Granada in 1983, as well as the U.S. Air Force's lightning raid against Libya in 1986. For instance, in the period between late 1986 and early 1987, China held a combat exercise for its 27th Army, using its crack and rapid deployment units as a strike force, simulating situations varying from peace to war, and sending troops under military training to fight on various battlefields. They moved troops from China's northern border (Sino-Mongolian border) southward (to the Sino-Vietnamese border) to build combat fortifications and carry out other military activities at the Vietnamese border at Ha Tuyen. As part of their military exercise, they made a troop landing in Vietnam's Hoang Sa [Paracel] archipelago, called Xisha by China, deployed their naval forces at sea, and sent their military aircraft for long-range combat missions during which they dropped bombs at sea and participated in nibbling operations against the area of Vietnam's Truong Sa [Spratly] archipelago (called Nansha by China). According to the Indian News Agency PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA], on 12 August 1988 Indian military experts revealed for the first time that the Chinese Airborne Rapid Deployment Force had practiced parachuting onto the Qinghai-Sisang highlands. This shows that China is capable of rapidly deploying its troops to various mountain and rugged areas. This demonstrates China's new, unprecedented potential, even though the Chinese Air Force still has only four traditional airborne divisions. The Chinese news agency XINHUA on 30 July 1988 also reported on this event, saying: "The troop airlift, parachuting, and survival technique exercise in the Qinghai-Xizang highlands shows that Chinese airborne units have mastered the basic technique of troop airlift and parachuting on the highlands and have been capable of fighting in such terrain", and that "the parachuting technique and the survival capability of these units can be compared with those of the airborne units of certain advanced countries in the world. They are most important units of China's mobile rapid deployment force capable of satisfactorily meeting the requirements of a limited war and dealing with any contingencies." In its 14 June 1988 issue, the Chinese

newspaper Liberation Army also revealed that a special unit dubbed the "Steel Punch Platoon" has been satisfactorily trained under harsh weather, terrain, and living conditions, and has been given priority treatment in terms of weapons, equipment, and personnel, and that members of this unit are required to serve a term of more than three years without being transferred anywhere. They are exempted from normal labor details and receive favorable treatment in material life.

An ex-Chinese soldier who once saw a parachuting drill of Western soldiers said: "The technique of parachuting with weapons in specific terrain at nighttime and the survival capability in field operations of Chinese airborne units can be compared with those of advanced countries in the world." As for Western observers, they doubted that the Chinese Rapid Deployment Force in general and Chinese airborne troops in particular have the capability to conduct large-scale combined operations involving various armed services and combat branches. But they also had to admit that the Chinese Rapid Deployment Force has been well-organized, trained, and equipped to suit small-scale, "lightning" raids. And thus, China is totally able to deploy this force to any border areas within 12 hours when necessary. (XINHUA, 30 July 1988)

## Ngo Ba Thanh Article on 'Nature' of Pluralism

*BK2208095590 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Jun 90, pp 1,4*

[Article by Mrs. Ngo Ba Thanh, Ph.D. (Law), National Assembly Deputy for Ho Chi Minh City, and head of the National Assembly's Judiciary Committee: "The True Nature of Pluralism"]

[Text] The imperialists and international reactionaries have always sought to oppose and sabotage the revolution. They have once called for an anticommunist crusade to eradicate socialism—a socio-political system. This is a comprehensive global confrontation on all economic, social, political, diplomatic, ideological, and behavioral areas. According to them, now is the most opportune time to fully exploit all the mistakes and difficulties of socialist countries in order to bring about a "peaceful evolution."

Pluralism is one of the many tricks they have used as to sabotage socialism. Pluralism should not be ignored, considering its extremely reactionary nature against the class, the party, and the state.

Historically, pluralism came to life 200 years ago and has since been gradually supplemented. There are many forms of pluralism, namely old-fashioned pluralism, philosophical pluralism, economic pluralism, and political pluralism. During the general crisis of capitalism, pluralism was modernized to suit new historic conditions. Today, it is part of the imperialist ideology. Those advocating pluralism have failed to produce any scientific grounds to explain why they advocate dividing society into many groups and basing their worldview on the "pluralistic doctrine." In reality, they want to conceal the class nature of the bourgeois society. However, when it comes to dealing with class, they also advocate dividing it according to standards for (leadership) functions and (subservient) duty. These are the same types of uncalled for standards used for dividing society into many groups, on the basis of the professions (living standards), their level of consumption, their interests, educational background, participation in the administration, religion, race, etc. However, they have failed to explain why one class is allowed to assume the leadership role while another is in a position of subservience.

They dare not talk about the origin of class that Marxism has clearly analyzed as coming from the relationship with the means of production. The reason why the bourgeois class has been able to seize ruling power is that they have private ownership over production means. However, speaking bluntly like that will amount to exposing the exploitative nature of the bourgeoisie and pointing out to the working class and the laboring people that to discard the system of the exploitation of man by man, they must rise up to carry out a revolution to eradicate the system of private ownership in production relations. This is a taboo for the bourgeoisie.

When it comes to dealing with a "modern industrialized society," those advocating pluralism advance a new argument: In a "modern industrialized society," one cannot divide the people into social classes because a person will at the same time belong to many different groups, classes, and collectives. Man in a pluralistic society serves as a meeting point for different groups and relationships. A man may be the father of a family but a son or brother in another. These families may have different lifestyles and this man will be influenced by many totally different tendencies ... There will be no scientific standards to observe if the matter is analyzed this way. In fact, the pluralists want to eradicate class boundaries and totally ignore the material origin of classes.

Those advocating economic pluralism hold that the economy is a vital front for the struggle between groups of people with vested interests in society and that only capitalism can satisfy this struggle. Economic pluralism is against national ownership and planning and distorts socialist ownership. It is designed to destroy the material foundation of the socialist regime and to direct the working class and the laboring people toward a daily struggle for cheap and selfish interests in the hope of making them forget the political struggle. Lenin exposed the designs of economic pluralism during the latter part of the last century: "By busying oneself with the economic struggle, one may forget his political struggle, thus alienating oneself from the vital principle of the international campaign for social democracy and forgetting all those things taught by the workers movement throughout its history." Those enthusiastically defending the bourgeoisie and the government that serves this class have on several occasions sought to

organize public associations of a purely economic nature with a view to diverting the workers' attention from "politics" or socialism.

Those advocating political pluralism call for absolutization of the diversity of society, hailing "pluralistic society as one of the most democratic and most beautiful" forms of "pluralistic democracy." In the second stage of the general crisis of capitalism, political pluralism has been increasingly publicized for demagogic purposes along with efforts to distort socialism and defend capitalism. There are three categories of political pluralism, with the first being demagogic pluralism, the second being liberal pluralism, and the third being Christian-oriented social pluralism. One of the main allegations of political pluralism is that "based on its structural traits, Western democracy is a pluralistic democracy." It is synonymous with freedom, democracy, and human rights. Those advocating political pluralism always deny the class nature of democracy. They distort socialism, regarding socialism as dictatorial, as against freedom and democracy, and as "the enemy of freedom."

Those advocating political pluralism claim that with pluralism they can "democratize" socialism. They hold that it is their ultimate goal to reach a "pluralistic society," which they regard as equivalent to bourgeois society. More brazenly, they claim that pluralistic society is "authentic socialism" and "genuine socialism"(!) They adorn it with a "doctrine" that boasts a systematic organization and a world outlook. This doctrine is spread under the camouflage of many demagogic slogans in order to win public support. Its ultimate goal is no different than that of those reactionary doctrines previously advocated by the bourgeoisie—that is, to try to maintain and defend capitalism and frenziedly oppose socialism and revolutionary currents.

The reactionary and dangerous nature of political pluralism can be seen through the following perspectives:

a. Those advocating pluralism deny the existence of any classes in capitalist society as well as the struggle between these classes. They favor a "harmonious" society and advocate a doctrine of "easing social differences, denying the idea of socialist revolution and proletarian dictatorship." They hold that "liberal democracy" is precisely "pluralistic democracy" and that a "pluralistic state" will tolerate differences in political views and is a potentially developed community. They sow illusions about a "harmonious" society, weaken the fighting will of the proletariat, and reject the class struggle that has long been proved by history.

b. Those advocating pluralism sow dissension among the working class and separate the people of various strata from the influence of the working class, which is the most revolutionary force. In accordance with their ill-matched standards, those advocating pluralism dream of dividing the working class into many different groups in order to prevent them from having the same mind, the same organization, and the same program of action. In their opinion, trade unions can only exist if they observe theoretical principles and prove in reality that their activities are compatible with requirements for a classless "common prosperity." By fragmentarily dividing the working class and the working people, they want to discard the historic role of the working class, making it impossible to gather its allied forces for a revolution. Meanwhile, they guide the people toward pluralistic concepts, that is, toward mediocre goals and daily selfish and cheap interests, thus giving them no reasons to gather around the working class, lulling them to sleep in various organizations of a purely economic nature, and disassociating them from revolutionary goals.

c. Those advocating pluralism undermine the state of the working class by favoring pluralism in the administration, sabotaging the principle of democratic centralism of the state organizations, and encouraging nongovernmental organizations. They uphold "pluralistic democracy." Pluralism has led to a very vague idea about the state. Those advocating pluralism regard the state as a gathering point of various groups of power in society which are equal in privileges and which together exercise their rule over a "commonwealth state" belonging to everyone in conformity with requirements for a "commonwealth." A "commonweath" here is defined as a material and spiritual prosperity that can be realized if everyone cooperates and lives harmoniously in a country and society(!) They speak as if there is "common prosperity" between billionaires and proletarians! They claim that the state is a mechanism designed to regulate social conflicts in order to effect a change for the better in society in a controlled fashion. And they reach the conclusion that the current bourgeois state is precisely the one that correctly meets these requirements.

The cause of socialist revolution in Vietnam is inseparable from the world's historical background. The crisis in a number of socialist countries has had an adverse impact on the entire socialist system, our country included, on the international communist and workers' movement, and on the national liberation movement. Now more than ever before the cause of socialist revolution in our country needs to be elucidated by Marxist-Leninist theory with its full scientific and revolutionary character applied to the vibrant realities of Vietnam. Responding to these requirements, the resolutions of the seventh and eighth plenums of the party Central Committee clearly pointed out that utmost importance must be attached to ideological work, that the leadership and management of ideological work must be closely linked with the leadership and management of socioeconomic work, and that ideological work must be linked with organizational work.

A phenomenon that has almost become a law is that since Marxism-Leninism with its highly scientific character came into being and became a reality in many countries of the world, bourgeois theoreticians have sought by all means to mount an assault on Marxism-Leninism and frenziedly oppose socialism. Pluralism,

which is nothing more than a product of the bourgeoisie, has been constantly remolded and modernized to suit new historical conditions. An ideological tool of imperialism of monopoly capitalists in our time, modern pluralism has an extremely reactionary nature. It sneaks into all domains of social life in each nation as well as in the whole world. Disguised in various forms (philosophical, economic, political...), resorting to many hypocritical tricks, wearing different colors, and wielding a world outlook and a philosophy of life of its own, pluralism worms its way into communist parties, governments, the movement of the working class and laboring people, and the movements of various nations to sabotage socialism and the revolutionary currents of the world in a systematic manner. Because of the cunning and harmful character of pluralism, the struggle to lay bare the extremely reactionary nature of this ideology and prevent its spread has become a pressing and burning issue of the working class and peoples of nations now in the grip of a theoretical and ideological crisis, which is marked by the anarchic political and social upheavals currently taking place in some socialist countries.

Without slackening in the least in our sense of revolutionary vigilance, by word and deed we must steadfastly adhere to the principle of increasing the strength and effectiveness of proletarian dictatorship, with the basic objective of strengthening and renovating the party's leading role and perfecting the state machinery in order to ensure that the state power really belongs to the people and that the people become the real power-holders. On this basis, we resolutely reject pluralism under any form and in any of its manifestations.

The objective necessity of our cause of renovation in a world just entering the last decade of the 20th century with many successive, extensive, far-reaching, and complex developments requires that we remain calm and responsive in view of the trend of struggle and cooperation in peaceful coexistence. This trend has brought into a sharper focus than ever before the complex and difficult nature of the class struggle on a world scale.

Different eras call for different wisdom. Therefore, our party must have the capability and wisdom that match the requirements of our time and surge forward to take the vanguard position. The modern scientific and technological revolution has raised mankind to a new peak of intelligence, fostering strong development in each new decade. These achievements are the premises as well as the material and moral conditions for promoting the rapid development of mankind, for whom socialism is a historic choice.

## Newly Promulgated Income Tax Law Detailed

*BK2108142790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 19 Aug 90*

[Text] The Income Tax Law has been promulgated after it was adopted by the seventh session of the Eighth National Assembly.

The Income Tax Law comprises eight chapters and 40 articles; the eight chapters are as follows:

Chapter I: General Rules
Chapter II: Basis for Tax Calculation and Income Tax Tables
Chapter III: Filing of Income Tax Returns, Income Tax Payment and Collection
Chapter IV: Income Tax Reduction and Exemption
Chapter V: Handling of Violations and Rewards and Commendation
Chapter VI: Complaints and Limitation
Chapter VII: Organization of Implementation
Chapter VIII: Final Provisions

Income tax is a kind of direct tax aimed at mobilizing part of the income of economic organizations and individuals engaged in production and business activities. This law replaces the present income tax system applied to the non-state economic sector and the business gain tax system applied to the state economic sector. This tax is not levied on activities that are subject to taxation under the Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam and on agricultural production activities, which are already subject to payment of agricultural tax.

The Income Tax Law takes effect on 1 October 1990. The newspapers published on 20 August will carry the full text of this law.

## Radio Reviews Aug, Sep Issues of Army Journal

*BK1708013490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 12 Aug 90*

[Summary] "On the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the August Revolution and 2 September National Day, TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN releases a 108-page special issue for August and September, which contains many important articles by our party and state leaders and leading research cadres of various organs and sectors in and outside the Army.

"The journal begins this special issue with the full text of the Declaration of Independence read by President Ho Chi Minh at the historic Ba Dinh Square on 2 September.

"Next is Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh's speech, 'The People's Army in the Process of Socialist Renovation of our People,' which he delivered at the conference high-ranking Army cadres conducted in Ho Chi Minh City to study the sixth party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution.

"This is followed by an article entitled, 'The Process of Socialist Renovation in Vietnam Is Illuminated by Ho Chi Minh's Concepts,' excerpted from the work 'Ho Chi Minh, a Human Being, a Nation, an Era, and a Cause' by Comrade Pham Van Dong, adviser to the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; and another article entitled, 'Humanitarianism in Uncle Ho's Military Legacy' by Colonel Le Bang, doctoral candidate of philosophy."

This issue also features "The Proletarian Dictatorship State and the People's Army," by Professor Tran Trong Huu; "The People's Public Security Forces and the People's Army Unite in Their Coordinated Combat Acitivities To Safeguard the Revolutionary Gains," by Major General Duong Thong; "The 1945-46 Period—A Period of Multiparty System in Vietnam," by Professor Nguyen Van Phung; and an article by Ha Thinh on the "On Nhu Hau" case.

In the "Research" section the paper features Major General Professor Tran Xuan Truong's article on various forms of socialist democracy; an article by Dao Tri Uc, doctor of law, entitled "Democracy and Law;" attorney Colonel Le Duc Tiep's article, "Military Law;" and Thao Uy's article, "Coordination Between Imperialism, Counterrevolutionaries, and Opportunistic Elements."

The paper publishes in the "Exchange of Opinions and Experiences" an article by Major General Le Thanh entitled, "Some Opinions Concerning Afforestation and the Combination of Economic Development With National Defense;" "Build Khanh Hoa into a Coastal Defense Zone," by Bui Hong Khanh, secretary of Khanh Hoa provincial party committee; "Vinh Tinh Builds Coastal Combat Villages in Teh District's Defense Zone," by Cao Nhat Thanh, party committee secretary of Vinh Tinh village in Vinh Chau District; "Be Ready To Fight for the Defense of the Fatherland's Islands and Archipelagos," by Captain Nguyen Thanh Nghi; "Militia and Self-defense Forces and the Task of Safeguarding the Administration at the Grass-roots Level," by Captain Nguyen Manh Hung; and "A Review of the Battles Fought During the Wars of Resistance Against the French and the Americans—Some Initial Experiences," by Major General Bui Cong Ai.

Finally, in the "Write As Requested by Readers" section, the journal presents some materials on the Soviet and other East European armies' restructuring processes.

## New Zealand

### Small Parties Angry Over New Advertising Bill

*BK2308024490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0222 GMT 23 Aug 90*

[By Michael Field]

[Text] Auckland, New Zealand, Aug 23 (AFP)—New Zealand's Labour government, increasingly panicked by the prospect of electoral defeat in October, has used its majority to torpedo small political parties who could have drawn voters. Labour pushed a bill through parliament la[illegible] Wednesday [22 August] that provides free advertising space and time only to major parties and shuts some smaller parties out of the media altogether.

The change, coming three months ahead of New Zealand's elections, caused anger here Thursday. And as one of the main victims is a small Maori party, Labour has opened itself to a charge of racism. Leader of the Mana Motuhake party, Matiu Rata, complained the government had "outlawed the Maori view."

The ruling Labour Party appears to have decided it will not be ejected from office the way its predecessor was in 1984 when votes for third parties were crucial.

Under the new legislation passed in urgency—when parliament suspends standing orders in order to get urgent business through—the main parties receive free or subsidised broadcasting time during an election. Individual candidates will be allowed to buy time, although the cost will count within the 10,000 New Zealand dollars (6,200 U.S. dollars) they can spend on campaigning.

But parties with fewer than 10 candidates or parties that have been established for less than a year neither have access to subsidised time nor will they be allowed to buy time. Excluded parties will have to appeal to a new six-person authority, including single representatives of the Labour and National Party, for media time.

Mana Motuhake, which is contesting only the four Maori seats, and the Green Party, which was only established this year, are both excluded from the airwaves under the new law.

Labour is trailing behind National in opinion polls taken here over the past six months, sometimes by as much as 30 percentage points, and some Labour strategists fear the party will be left with only 10 seats in the 97-seat single chamber parliament. The current standings are Labour 56 seats, National 40 and New Labour 1.

Third parties have never fared well here. In the last 50 years only the small and now disintegrating Social Credit Party has made an impact, at one point getting two MPs [members of parliament] into the house. But the minor parties can have a devastating effect on the outcome of elections. Old wisdom here suggests that a disaffected Labour voter will not vote for National, or visa versa, but will send the protest vote to a third party.

In the 1984 elections this was dramatically apparent when millionaire property magnate Bob Jones, angry at national government land tax changes, set up the New Zealand Party. They did not win a single seat, but in district after distrcit, they took enough votes off National to allow Labour to win.

The newly formed Green Party, which has begun pulling as much as five per cent support in opinion polls, clearly worries Labour strategists.

The state of the environment is repeatedly identified by voters here as an area of major concern, but for the Greens the major concern will be to get their candidates known. The new law will make that very difficult.

New Zealand's Maori have had four designated seats in parliament since 1867, although whether a person votes in a Maori or general seat is an individual decision. Many Maori vote on general rolls and several MPs representing general seats are Maori.

For most of this century Labour has held all four Maori seats. In 1987, for example, Labour took 79.3 percent of all votes cast in southern Maori. But growing Maori nationalism, and anger at the way their votes have been taken for granted, have seen the rise of Maori groupings, including 10-year-old Mana Motuhake.

Its leader, Matiu Rata, was a former Labour cabinet minister. Mr. Rata said Thursday the new laws gave strength to the radical view held by some Maori that whites here were manipulating the electoral system. He said it would strengthen calls by some for a Maori boycott of the election.

The New Labour Party (NLP), which will get some media time, said Labour and National had won the "prize for self-interest." NLP leader Jim Anderton, also a former Labour Party MP, accused Labour of poaching time from radio and television, suggesting the parties could not have otherwise afforded it.

The New Zealand Council for Civil Liberties said the law was undemocratic and attacked the freedom of the media.